

link

THE MAGAZINE OF WILMINGTON COLLEGE

CUBA: CULTURE, CONTRASTS AND CLASSIC CARS

Wilmington College contingent among first
Americans to visit under normalized relations

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Junior Markia Black and sophomore Tyler White chat with Jim and Sue Reynolds at this summer's Student Leadership Summit, which Jim keynoted. The Reynolds' hosted 624 students at 27 dinners held during 2015-16, including meals with first year students in the fall and "Grillin' with Jim" events for Greek organizations during spring semester. They've been doing these small group get-togethers as a means for gaining close interaction with students since 2012.

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Perhaps like some of you, summertime is my favorite part of the year. The warmer weather, along with the longer days, provides opportunity for outdoors activities and more time to gather with friends and family.

I think it also provides the type of rhythm that we need in our daily lives – a chance to take advantage of each minute and use it to its fullest potential. Too often, I know I can get bogged down in the details and not use the gift of time to maximize what I can contribute to the wellbeing of my family and friends. The same is true of my professional life – I can become consumed by the daily items and not see the larger picture, sometimes losing sight of the joy that serving others can bring.

Likewise, at this time of the year, we often get distracted from the real meaning of the close of summer because of the race to get everything done so that our new and returning students can come to a campus that is ready for their arrival. Many have worked diligently this summer to prepare the campus and the classrooms for a new academic year and have done so without complaint, even though we often come down to the wire in our preparations.

But the real meaning in what we do during these last few weeks gets lost in the details. We forget that the opportunity to offer a safe place for students to explore and practice their calling and vocation is much more important than having the flowerbeds weeded. We misplace our priorities when we believe that fresh paint is the equivalent of healthy classroom debate and discourse. Each summer we work feverishly to clean and refresh the campus with the belief that it makes Wilmington College better. These cosmetic fixes make the environment to learn in better, to be sure. But, it's what we do to provide a caring and inclusive community committed to the transformative education that we provide that gives the College meaning.

Each day, I am thankful for the many women and men who work here that help to provide the necessary touches which make our campus a place that students believe is supportive and responsive to their needs. Each of our staff and faculty members who practice this type of considerate conduct is a true champion because it's through their dedication that we can educate our students to go out into the world and make a difference.

We might not get every room painted or mow the grass as often as we could, but what we provide in the way of authentic support and care to our students more than makes up for any cosmetic deficiencies that we may have.

Let me offer my sincere thanks to all of you who have made pledges of support to help to fund our recent building projects and other programs on campus. These new facilities are a testament to the belief we have as a campus that quality education changes the family trees of our students. Through your generosity, each student that comes to Wilmington will be able to have a chance to find the real meaning and purpose for their lives.

Happy New Year!

With great respect for all of you,

Jim Reynolds
President



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The winter and spring 2016 seasons generated its share of excitement on the courts, fields, track, diamonds and in the pool, but several nationally prominent student-athletes shone especially brightly.

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Class Notes



[p.4] CUBA: CULTURE, CONTRASTS AND CLASSIC CARS

Wilmington College led a group of 17 to the once forbidden land of Cuba in May. The educational excursion was an eye-opening adventure that was as close as 90 miles from American soil and as far as 57 years removed from normalized relations. (COVER) A red 1950 Ford and green 1949 Chevy travel along the popular Malecón on Havana's coast.



[p.31] RECORD 3 GIFTS EACH TOPPED \$1 MILLION IN FY16

The generosity and support of friends and alumni have the College on the threshold of attaining its \$21.2 million goal as the Leave Your Mark fundraising campaign heads into its final year. A record three gifts of \$1 million or more contributed significantly toward that total.



[p.44] 'FOUNDATIONAL'

Tim '75 and Deb '73 Trayer consider their Wilmington College experience as essential to the success they've had in their respective careers in veterinary medicine and teaching, as well as their life experiences during 43 years of marriage.



[p.48] PIED PIPER OF THE POTOMAC

In his spare time, Aaron DeNu '01 became founding director of the Dupont Festival, which features year-round programming in Washington D.C.'s iconic Dupont Circle Park. Since starting with a community viewing of the 2010 World Cup, he has shown classic films, presented an array of concerts and even brought Groundhog Day to the Nation's Capital.

Your comments are welcome.

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CUBA: CULTURE, CONTRASTS AND CLASSIC CARS

Wilmington College
contingent among first
Americans to visit under
normalized relations

Randy Sarvis





Cuba in many ways stands frozen in time.

A Castro has been in charge since 1959, buildings are relics from the first half of the 20th century with the faded paint to prove it and those glorious American Chevys, Fords and Buicks from the 1950s traverse along Havana's Malecón esplanade as they did when Dwight Eisenhower was the U.S. president.

Of course, then Fulgencio Batista was Cuba's strongman dictator friendly to the American government's interests and allegedly closely tied to organized crime syndicates. The Revolution led by Fidel Castro and Ernesto "Che" Guevara overthrew Batista and imposed a new form of authoritarian government — Marxist communism — beginning Jan. 1, 1959.

A snapshot taken that day at locations throughout the island nation of 11 million might look little different from one taken today sans the wear and tear of the ensuing 57 years. Those years also have taken a toll on the Cuban people that have faced hardships resulting from the U.S.-imposed trade embargo and fall of the Soviet Union, not to mention living under a system in which a free marketplace for goods, services, ideas and expression is, well, tightly controlled by the state.

Yet, the people have endured and, from the perspective of many, they believe their best prospects for a prosperous future will be closely tied to the United States. After more than half a century of American isolation, Pres. Barack Obama ramped up his administration's overtures toward normalization when he visited Cuba in March.

Cesar, the Wilmington College group's Cuban/Dominican tour co-director associated with EF College Study Tours, was thrilled to see Obama's visit come on the heels of Pope Francis' tour of the nation in September 2015 and, yes, be followed by the Rolling Stones' free "Concert for Amity" later in March.

"It was symbolic of Barack Obama coming to Cuba on March 22, the first day of spring — it represents a new beginning," Cesar said, adding that many Cubans have a sense for a more hopeful future. "This is a time for Cubans to stay here and not take the boat to Miami. I believe Cuba will become the star of the Caribbean.

"The world is watching Cuba."

An especially interested part of that "world watching Cuba" was the WC contingent, which included leader Dr. Michael Snarr, professor of political science; Mark Denniston, director of the Work Program and international partnerships; 2016 graduate Lydia Wolcott; senior Anna Heineke; junior Cody Nash; and myself, Randy Sarvis, *LINK* editor and director of public relations. Also, Anna's mother, Donna, and four others from the community, Bob and Leslie Goodhart, Brenda Hollon-Craig and Joanne Weston, along with six from Mount Union University, participated in the tour.

A Cuban, Yanais ("Jenny"), served as the tour director from the Cuban Ministry of Tourism, a highly prized job that provides for the opportunity to supplement her \$20 a month salary with generous tips from her travel groups. Indeed, she received gratuities for a week's work that more than tripled her annual salary.

Jenny introduced herself as a typical, family-oriented Cuban that has endured hardships, yet she is optimistic about her future.

"I don't have a Ph.D. in history, economics or mathematics. I have a Ph.D. in surviving," Jenny said, noting that, while she welcomed any questions about Cuba, her position with

the state prohibited her from possibly being as open and forthcoming as she may have otherwise wished to be. “There are things I cannot tell you.

“There are things we can do and things we cannot do,” she added. “People know the risks and consequences. But we always find a way. Cubans find a way to survive.”

Normalization appears to be assisting the standard of living for some. It allows Americans to bring a limited amount of consumer goods into Cuba, which was readily evident at Santa Clara Airport when persons went through customs carrying items ranging from 48” flat-screen TVs to chainsaws and boxes of new Puma baseball cleats.

The caveat is the government wants to keep those items as direct gifts to Cubans rather than their serving to fuel an already thriving black market, which constitutes a means for Cubans with money to purchase anything from gasoline to Wi-Fi cards.

Speaking of money, most Cubans survive on the equivalent of \$20 a month. Jenny said a teacher might make \$17 to \$20 a month, a physician \$25 to \$35 and a university professor \$25 to \$40. Farmers are required to sell 90 percent of their produce to the government — at state-designated prices.

Most Cubans receive rations of rice and beans each week, a transaction we witnessed at a state-run store. They might occasionally have pork or chicken in their diets.

“In our culture, we eat rice and beans everyday,” she said, recalling that food was cheap with more variety and availability during the years when Cuba was a Soviet client state. “But no one is starving in Cuba. Maybe it’s not beef or lobster, but everyone has something to eat. We survive.”

While the tour certainly highlighted positive cultural aspects in the country like art and music, simply traveling throughout Cuba illustrated it is a poor nation in which, by American standards, much of the populace lives in poverty.

The tour group spent its first two nights at Hotel America in Santa Clara, an aging but tidy facility just outside the city’s central square. Santa Clara hosts the Che Guevara Memorial and Museum, along with a roadside attraction depicting the legend of Che derailing a train carrying munitions for Batista’s army doing battle with Castro’s revolutionary forces in La Sierra Maestra.

Cesar shared that story as a highlight of the Revolution that sealed the Che-Fidel partnership and was a turning point in overthrowing Batista.

“This is one of the most important and exciting events in the Revolution,” he said, noting in 1958, Batista sent a train of munitions to where the rebels were fighting the army. “Fidel said, ‘Che, this is our opportunity. We have to stop the train. If the guns get there, we will lose the battle.’ Che Guevara and a couple men go to Santa Clara. They stopped the train and delayed it long enough for the rebels to win the battle.

“This was something really important for Cuba and Latin

America,” Cesar added.

Jenny said that, pre-Revolution, some 80 percent of the land was owned by Americans, adding that, once Fidel Castro held power, Cuba nationalized the property and many of the more affluent Cubans fled to south Florida and, today, remain among the greatest stalwarts against normalizing relations so long as a Castro is in charge.

We got our share of Revolutionary doctrine, as billboards permeated the country portraying images of Castro and Che along with quotes and slogans. Also, visits to the Bay of Pigs Museum and Che Memorial provided an abundance of history of the Revolution.

A significant point in the evolution of the post-Revolution occurred in 2008 when the infirmed Fidel — now 90 years old — transferred power to his younger brother, Raúl. While Fidel mildly condemned Obama’s visit, Raúl appears to offer a more rational and modern view of Cuba’s place in the world — that even allows some overtures to freedom of expression. The peaceful gay rights demonstration (we saw on CNN International) that occurred in Havana during our visit likely would not have been tolerated not so long ago.

“In our culture, we eat rice and beans everyday,” she said, recalling that food was cheap with more variety and availability during the years when Cuba was a Soviet client state. “But no one is starving in Cuba. Maybe it’s not beef or lobster, but everyone has something to eat. We survive.” — YANAIS “JENNY”

Snarr described the Cuban people as “very proud and resilient” in the face of what many would consider as an oppressive society.

“When teaching global politics, one of the big issues is human rights,” he said. “What are the more important human rights? Civic and political, the freedoms we’re used to in the United States? Or social and economic, like guaranteed jobs and housing? To see and be immersed in a country where these are preeminent rights they take for granted and they don’t think nearly as much about the civil and political. That was interesting to see a people accepting a different set of

1959

The Revolution led by Fidel Castro and Ernesto “Che” Guevara overthrows Batista and imposes a new form of authoritarian government — Marxist communism.

1961

Washington breaks off all diplomatic relations with Havana.

1991

Soviet military advisers leave Cuba following the collapse of the USSR.

human rights than we do.”

Wolcott, who will attend graduate school in political science at the University of Denver this fall, concurred with Snarr’s observation.

“Everyone has food, water and a roof over their head — not everyone in the U.S. has that,” Wolcott said. “But coming from a human rights perspective, it’s interesting to see that, while some of the basic human rights are met, you have this freedom of expression that people aren’t really allowed to practice. That’s something that we take for granted.

“It really makes you think.”

Jenny was reluctant to go very deep into a discussion about human rights.

“Even though we support the government, we are not political people,” she said, noting that Americans should expect Cubans to be very welcoming in spite of the two countries’ governments’ ideological differences. “We want the opportunity after more than 50 years to show you who we are. We believe in love and I hope this relationship keeps growing so you can come here and just enjoy a vacation.”

Indeed, Americans cannot visit Cuba simply as tourists seeking a beach resort vacation, although we spent two nights at a very adequate resort hotel in the Caribbean coast city of Cienfuegos. Our group gained entrance into the country on education visas ensuring that a preponderance of the visits was educational in nature.

It certainly was that, as we visited Ernest Hemingway’s home, a pottery-making retailer, colonial Havana, the centuries-old fort on Havana Harbor, a facility offering stimulating activities for senior citizens, a graphic arts school, a school for young children highlighting art and music, an organization that showcases talents designed for circus performances, a honey-producing farm and a neighborhood artists’ community.

We heard a chamber group from the Cienfuegos Symphony play beautiful, heartfelt music for their exclusively American audience and we witnessed a rousing revival of the Cuban big band sound a la Desi Arnaz’s style.

In Trinidad, the city Jenny described as “stuck in time,” we were scheduled to visit a cigar-manufacturer that’s representative of where Cuba’s prized Cohibas, Montecristos and Romeo y Julietas are rolled by hand — but the manager was not there and the assistant refused our group entrance. The group experienced similar disappointment when a



Smiles abound as Cuban children appeared to enjoy seeing Americans, as evidenced by their eagerness to pose for a photograph.

scheduled visit to the University of Havana was mysteriously deleted from the itinerary.

“That’s Cuba!” Jenny said, alluding that curve balls are often thrown at the best-laid plans.

Speaking of curveballs, we had the great opportunity to play a game of softball with Cubans in the 90-degree heat of the afternoon. They shared their gloves and bats with the group and, after a dominant display of their run-scoring prowess in the early innings, the Cuban team allowed the Fightin’ Quakers to reach base and even score runs while keeping their offense to a minimum.

Snarr especially enjoyed the game, as he still plays softball regularly, and was happy to be party to promoting peace through sport — his double down third baseline was a highlight for the Yankees.

“We connected on a level that transcended political or cultural lines,” he said. “We joked around. They knew what I was trying to do. I knew what they were doing. Even though we couldn’t communicate too well in the language and we didn’t know much about each other’s lives, we had a good time on the ball field.”

We learned the Cubans refer the era following the Soviet

2008

Raul Castro takes over as president, days after Fidel announces his retirement.

2014

US President Barack Obama and Cuba’s President Raul Castro announce moves to normalize diplomatic relations between the two countries.

2016

March 22, US President Barack Obama visits Cuba.



[CLOCKWISE FROM TOP]

A typical scene in the city of Remedios features a fruit vendor selling harvest from an organic farm or garden, along with a man commuting on a bicycle. During the "Special Period" following the Soviet pullout from Cuba, the nation purchased more than a million bicycles from China.

Pictured in front of Che Guevara's image at Plaza de la Revolución is the Wilmington College component of the 17-member tour group. They are, from the left, Michael Snarr, professor of political science; Mark Denniston, director of the Work Program and international partnerships; Lydia Wolcott, a May 2016 graduate; junior Cody Nash; senior Anna Heineke; and Randy Sarvis, editor of The LINK and director of public relations.

Horse or donkey-drawn carts appeared throughout the countryside and in the town of Trinidad, which the Cuban guide described as "frozen in time." The brightly painted fronts of homes hearken the mid-20th century.

This Cuban man rolled cigars in a Trinidad cantina called Canchanchara, which is the name of a popular Cuban drink comprised of lime juice, honey and rum.



Union's disintegration and subsequent pull out of support for Cuba in the late 1980s/1990s as the "Special Period," a time of massive shortages of food and energy supplies. Essentially on its own to deal with the protracted crisis, Cuba imported 1.2 million bicycles from China and, with cheap Russian food and Soviet farm machinery and chemical agricultural agents no longer available, it built a local food capacity with a move toward organic farming and more urban and rooftop gardens.

Their response was described as a model for nations on how to survive chronic food and energy shortages.

Cubans lived on \$2 a month during the Special Period and today eat more vegetables than ever before. Also, without Soviet oil, they learned to generate electricity by burning the unused parts of sugarcane. We visited a former sugarcane factory (it closed in 1999 when prices dropped) that today serves as a museum — Parque Temático del Locomotives — to the interesting combination of the sugarcane industry and old trains.

During a trip to Terrazas National Park, we learned how this area devoted to biosphere tourism was designed as a self-sustaining community of 1,000 in which they mix growing coffee with supplying a support mechanism for the tourism industry. The lush acreage is host to 123 species of birds, 33 reptiles, 17 amphibians and 23 hardwood species including teak, cedar and mahogany, along with 67 houses and 251 families whose accommodations clearly exceed much of what we witnessed elsewhere in the country.

"...coming from a human rights perspective, it's interesting to see that, while some of the basic human rights are met, you have this freedom of expression that people aren't really allowed to practice. That's something that we take for granted." — LYDIA WOLCOTT

"It's a utopia for many," the park guide told us, adding that the planned community has everything from Internet and a cinema to eldercare. Its swimming areas offer a popular destination for both Cubans and tourists. "Being self-sustainable is preventing poverty."

Interestingly, Che trained guerrilla fighters for battle in Bolivia and Congo in the mountains surrounding the village. Yes, Che and Fidel seem to be omnipresent, from subtle reminders like the mountain legend to their images portrayed 10 stories high on the sides of buildings in Havana's Plaza de la Revolución. The people seem content — on the surface at least — with the ideology that got them this far. No major military or police presence appears necessary in Cuba, as everyone seems to just go about their business.

"We complain like everybody, but in general we are happy — that's the Cuban way," Jenny said. "We may need a lot of things, but we are a happy people."

Denniston said he was surprised with how open the society appeared.

"I thought there would be a sense here of people watching your every move — it didn't feel like you were being watched at all," he said. "I realize that behind the scenes there are probably things that keep people from being totally honest and free."

He spoke of how it appeared the persons of various ethnic/racial backgrounds got along as "one happy family. I thought the Cuban people were extremely friendly. I feel blessed to have been on this trip."

Anna Heineke echoed those sentiments.

"Even more than what we did and what we saw, the people we met were the most memorable for me," she said. "They're warm and welcoming, and I enjoyed learning about their culture and forming my own opinion rather than hearing it from viewpoints in an American history class."

Speaking of history, nowhere on Earth is the critical mass of old American cars so prevalent as in Cuba. I understand that, in 1957, Havana boasted the largest per capita number of Cadillacs in the world. Today, it undoubtedly hosts the highest concentration of American cars from the late 1940s and '50s anywhere.

These American cars are incredible! To see those pieces of Detroit steel still on the road and looking so majestic was absolutely amazing. I knew there would be some — it's almost a cliché to see the covers of Cuban travel guides emblazoned with a '57 Chevrolet Bel Air or '56 Ford Fairlane — but I'd say 30 to 40 percent of the cars in Cuba are vintage American. (Interestingly, the more modern cars all seem to have a license plate indicating they're state-owned vehicles.)

I salute the Cuban people — the master mechanics and tool-and-die fabricators — for keeping those things going, some of them maybe with baling wire and duct tape, but those beautiful American cars are still on the road — and it's a sight to see!

We ended our trip with a brief stop at Hotel Nacional, the Havana waterfront hotel legendarily built by American Mafia in the early 1930s. While the magnificent structure may have lost a little of its luster over the decades, it stands as a majestic monument to Cuba's checkered past, but considering the island's miles and miles of pristine coastline, it may be a harbinger of things to come when American investors get their hands — and dollars — back into the mix.

Nash and Wolcott enjoyed the hotel's patio overlooking Havana's harbor and central district, reflecting upon the past week in a country that — now warm and welcoming — had been forbidden land to Americans for more than half a century.

"I'd like to come back after a number of years and see what's changed and what's stayed the same, see if buildings are remodeled, see if the cars change," Nash said. "I think this was a really cool time to come here before big money from America starts pouring in. It will be interesting to see down the road what changes and what stays the same."

This group of Americans viewed themselves as not only tourists but also as ambassadors whose mission in part was promoting peaceful relations with a neighboring nation through people-to-people interaction in which politics danced merely on the periphery. Pope Francis, Barack Obama, the Rolling Stones and, yes, Wilmington College all helped get the genie out of the bottle.

Now, change is on cruise-control just like that old '54 Buick chugging along Havana's Malecón.

'LOVE WINS'

College confers 259 degrees at 140th Commencement



Science graduates, from the left, Nina Veite, Whitney Rymer, Kurt Fortkamp, Kaitlin Esselman and Hannah Fetters pose for a selfie photo before the soon-to-be-graduates marched into Hermann Court for the ceremony.

Randy Sarvis

President Jim Reynolds spoke of Wilmington College's Commencement as an inherently "bittersweet" event, representing a day in which he alternately feels glad and sad.

"We're glad for your accomplishments and our ability to witness them and sad in the realization that our time together is drawing to a close," he said, noting how Commencement also constitutes a sort of "pay day" for many in higher education.

"We get to watch and be a part of one of the most important days of your lives knowing that we played a small role in getting you here to the finish line. It's incredibly gratifying and intrinsically rewarding and, each year, it is special to all of us."

Reynolds has given the keynote address at the last five Commencements, each time providing a speech that is unique to the graduating class. He prefaced this year's talk by admitting he had a rough year — he lost both his mother and lifelong best friend in the space of two weeks — and those life-changing events, with their resulting feelings of emptiness and grief, exacerbated his mixed emotions associated with the end of the academic year.

He mentioned that sometimes, in the midst of "significant events that will cause change in our lives," like graduating from college, we look for affirmation — a few words from someone letting us know we are good people and on the right path.

"All of our human experience is related to knowing that our existence is noted by others and that we count — that somewhere in the big scorebook of life, we have been tallied and that we count," he said. "Today, I get the honor of being

"All of our human experience is related to knowing that our existence is noted by others and that we count — that somewhere in the big scorebook of life, we have been tallied and that we count." — JIM REYNOLDS



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that person who gets to publicly tell you that you count.”

Reynolds illustrated that through four phrases and associated vignettes.

First, “You have sufficient.”

He first heard that phrase spoken by his mother when, as a boy, he filled his plate with enough mashed potatoes to “feed a family of four and a small horse.”

“I want each of you to know today that you have sufficient,” he said. “You have everything you need to be successful going forward. During your time here, you have gained the knowledge and the skills to claim a wonderful life for yourselves. Yet, your diploma is only an invitation to journey into the world and become your best self.”

Second, “We are each other’s business.”

The phrase comes from a poem by Gwendolyn Brooks about the life of Paul Robeson, the son of a slave who be-

“When faced with injustice, we have to speak for justice. When faced with sorrow, we have to speak for joy. When faced with isolation, we have to speak for inclusion.” — JIM REYNOLDS

came a famous entertainer while fighting for civil and human rights. Reynolds said it refers to each day making a difference in the lives of others, even at the cost of self-sacrifice.

“I’ve watched many of you go out of your way to help someone you know here on campus,” he said. “It might be through some random act of kindness or it could be something as simple as a smile.

“When faced with injustice, we have to speak for justice. When faced with sorrow, we have to speak for joy. When faced with isolation, we have to speak for inclusion,” he



Jamal McClendon approaches President Jim Reynolds, who presented him with his diploma and a few words of congratulations.



Curtis Richards gets a high-five from Don Chafin, professor of agriculture, as the graduates exit the Commencement ceremony through a congratulatory gauntlet of faculty and staff.

added. “Remember that, as you go out into the world today, there are many who need you to be their business because they are too small, too weak, too marginalized to advocate for themselves.”

Third, “Love wins.”

Reynolds shared the story of meeting with an alumnus whose son was tragically killed earlier this year. He “floundered for the right words to say” in again offering his sympathies to the bereaved man and left feeling he let him down by not finding the ideal words with which to comfort him. At the airport, Reynolds saw someone wearing a T-shirt emblazoned with “Love Wins.”

“That’s what I should have said in that moment,” he said. “No matter what the contest or the situation, love wins — I cannot think of a time in my life, irrespective of what was happening, where love lost.”

Reynolds said many will face a situation in which they must choose between love and anger or love and hatred. “Have your mental T-shirt ready to wear. Love wins! — and you all are living testaments to that fact. Don’t be afraid to share it with someone.”

Fourth, “I know where you are.”

He recalled the wife of his best friend saying that to her husband as he was “literally leaving his life and journeying into the next one.” Reynolds said those “powerful words of faith” were close to his heart as he prepared his speech.

“You may not know it but I know where all of you are,” he said. “Look around this gymnasium — you are in the hearts of everyone here today who is wishing you success and happiness in your lives. You’re in the minds of all of us who have had a small role in your success.

“We remember you all with fondness and pride as you finish today. We say thanks for giving us the opportunity to know you and to be a small part of your exceptional lives.”

GRADS REFLECT UPON WC EXPERIENCE

'Nothing will compare to the days that have led us to where we are today.'



President Jim Reynolds huddled up with main campus student speakers for Commencement and Senior Lunch several days prior to the soon-to-be-graduates' culminating event. They include, from the left, Dylan Hammond, Senior Lunch speaker; Abby Jude, main campus student speaker at Commencement; Joseph Njeru, who gave the welcome; and Micaela Wright, who introduced the president.

Randy Sarvis

"Moments like this remind me why I chose Wilmington College in the first place; they remind me why I never left."

— ABBY JUDE

Abby Jude '16 recalls her sister visiting her during Wilmington College's Homecoming weekend. As they traversed much of the campus, her sister turned and said, "Can you stop saying 'hello' to everyone?"

"It was at that moment that I realized I honestly could not," said Jude, who represented main campus students in speaking at Commencement. She said that, on this campus, one cannot help but see persons they know, whether it's walking to class, a football game or an event in Heiland Theatre.

"Moments like this remind me why I chose Wilmington College in the first place; they remind me why I never left; and they remind me why, now, I look forward to alumni events," she said. "Wilmington

has been my home for the last four years and it's where I have met some of my best friends.

"I am forever grateful for my friendships with each of you," she added. "We chose a school that really cares for the success of its students and provides so many hands-on learning opportunities."

Jude said the days leading to Commencement evoked a flood of memories that began with her moving into Austin-Pickett as a freshman ready to begin her WC journey and continued with seeing Bailey Hall transform back into an academic building and the new Center for Sport Sciences and Center for the Sciences and Agriculture become jewels in the College's crown. Those are all noteworthy events, but she knows the shared day-to-



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day experiences of College life will be the most enduring.

"We've seen a lot of big things happen during our time at Wilmington, but nothing will compare to the days that have led us to where we are today."

Gwendolyn Lawhorn '16, Jude's Cincinnati Branch counterpart, spoke of adult students successfully balancing their education with full-time employment, families and community obligations.

"The underlying common denominator we all share is that we reached a time in our lives where a need or a desire to become more successful pushed us to pursue a higher level of education," she said.

"I feel successful when I am able to balance what I am able to take with what I am able to give back." – GWENDOLYN LAWHORN

Lawhorn said she had been employed most of her pre-WC adult life, but never felt like she had a career.

"I always worked hard and was afforded small promotions, but I didn't feel like I was taken seriously," she said, adding that hitting the "proverbial glass ceiling" resulted in her enrolling at the Blue Ash campus in accounting and business management.

As she was able to demonstrate her newfound knowledge to her employer, Lawhorn was promoted twice while attending WC and now, as a graduate, has a management position "that, at one time, I thought of as an impossible career goal."

Yet, for her, that singular accomplishment does not fully represent success. Indeed, her definition will not only resonate with her fellow nontraditional graduates but also those 22 years olds for whom service was a staple of their time at WC. Indeed, students gave more than 64,000 hours of voluntary service in the past four years.

"I feel successful when I am able to balance what I am able to take with what I am able to give back," she said, noting she has volunteered with the United Way, her son's parent-teacher organization and as a member of her township zoning commission.

"I am grateful for what I have and what I can share," she said. "Compassion and empathy are usually indicators of intelligence. Graduates, as intelligent and educated individuals, you now have an opportunity to broaden your success with continued service to others."

In presenting the welcome at Commencement, Joseph Njeru '16 spoke of superheroes, not Spiderman or Wonder Woman, but ones that have had an indelible impact upon his life.

"Real superheroes don't come in red capes and tight Spandex. They are the selfless mothers and fathers who sacrificed so that you could be here today," he told the graduates. "My real superhero is a woman who left her husband and sons in Kenya to come to the United States and clean homes with the hope of creating a better life for



Kaitlin Esselman, who is pictured seconds after receiving her diploma, spoke at Baccalaureate.

her family. That woman is my mother and, after years of separation and hard work, her dream came true."

In introducing the president, Micaela Wright '16 spoke of her evolving interactions with Jim Reynolds, beginning when he shook the new freshman's hand at the picnic for new students through attending one of the many dinners Jim and Sue Reynolds had for new students and organizations and, ultimately, their work together when she was student government president.

"No matter what was going on, Jim always took the time to get to know each of us and hear about our life goals," Wright said. "Our president is accessible, unintimidating, friendly and genuine – he is an important part of what made my time at WC so rewarding."

At Baccalaureate, Kaitlin Esselman '16 said she possesses "an abundance of gratitude and love" for the College and, as she's visited a number of schools for graduate studies, "I couldn't find a place that compares to Wilmington College."

She said that learning doesn't stop simply because one has a college diploma, rather, "We are able to continue to learn as a result of the skills and experiences we had here. I hope, as a class, we are remembered for (possessing) fullness, understanding and integrity."

Dylan Hammond '16 told graduates at the Senior Lunch that history is his chosen career and the Class of 2016's history includes some "amazing moments" he will treasure.

"Each of our lives has been filled with trials and decisions. My decision to come to Wilmington College I would make 1,000 times over," he said. "Don't forget this place or the amazing memories we have – this place and all of you will forever remain in my heart."

Theresa Knopf '17 helped send off the Class of '16 during the ceremony with a stirring vocal rendition of the song "Blessings" by Laura Story.

CINCINNATI BRANCH GRADS ENDURE 'THE LONG ROAD'

22nd annual Senior Banquet celebrates perseverance, dedication, accomplishment



*Gwendolyn Lawhorn
represented the Cincinnati
Branch as a student speaker
at Commencement.*

Randy Sarvis

Dr. Sylvia Stevens described the Cincinnati Branch's Senior Recognition Banquet as representative of that "heart-tugging time of year."

The vice president for external programs spoke of the, often, bittersweet feelings resulting from seeing her students accomplish such an important goal as earning a college degree, yet it's tempered by the fact she will no longer see them on a regular basis.

President Jim Reynolds spoke of their graduation as a "pay day" for him. "You lift us up every time we have the chance to interact with you. You've changed your family tree."

Also in welcoming the graduates and their guests, Renee LaPine, a member of WC's Board of Trustees, empathized with their challenging road to earning a degree, as she graduated in 1995 from Wilmington College as a nontraditional student.

"This degree is going to change your life," said LaPine,

president of Emsar Corp. in Wilmington. "This is a meaningful moment to celebrate what you've accomplished."

Christina Setser '16, who graduated with majors in accounting and business management, shared her story that began at a large university 23 years ago.

"I was lost there. You didn't have the connection with faculty and staff. You sink or swim — I sank," she said, feeling then that her education was over. However, she later enrolled at Cincinnati State and earned her associate's degree, which affirmed her ability to excel as a student.

"I got this momentum. I couldn't stop now," she said, recalling how meeting Stevens helped encourage her to pursue a bachelor's degree. "I had so much support from faculty, staff and my fellow students. It's been a wonderful experience and, while I'm not going to miss the homework or Saturday classes, I am going to miss all of you so much."

Setser left her classmates with a message that espouses the College's values: "Use this education not only to pursue



COMMENCEMENT

your career, but also use it in being compassionate to yourself and others.”

Alethea Marshall '16 spoke of beginning in the 1980s taking courses at two larger universities for nearly 25 years before enrolling at Blue Ash in 2012.

“In 30 years, I stopped four times, but never did I consider stopping when I was at Wilmington — I finally could see the finish line,” Marshall said. “As a nontraditional student, I cannot say enough about everybody at Wilmington College.”

During the program, others had an opportunity to share brief reflections about their WC experience. One said, “Everyone was always so encouraging to me — also, thanks to my husband for putting up with me.”

Another noted, “Thank you Wilmington for giving me, a working parent, the opportunity to get my degree,” while another also expressed appreciation for “pushing me through.” That graduate lost her mother unexpectedly during her studies at WC. “She wanted me to have a college degree and I wanted to make her proud. It’s been a long road.”

A faculty member thanked the students for “sharing your experience, your enthusiasm and your delight in learning.”

Cincinnati Branch students selected Bob Sandman for its 2016 Outstanding Faculty Award. The assistant professor of business administration retired this summer after teaching for 25 years at WC.

“I am filled with so much gratitude for the hard work you put into your education and that you laughed at my economics and statistics jokes,” Sandman said. “Education is a team sport. You couldn’t learn without your professors, authors of the textbooks and without the support of your fellow students — and we faculty couldn’t teach without you.”

Daniel Smith '16 received the Distinguished Student Award, whose criteria include having a minimum 3.75 grade point average, 30 credit hours at WC and possessing the characteristics of initiative, creativity, leadership and inspiration.

Smith was lauded for “unparalleled ability,” “being one of the most accomplished students I’ve ever had in class” and for “exhibiting academic and quantitative abilities.”

The Elizabeth Ackley Writing Award in the Humanities was presented to Teresa Sutton with Setser and Herman Clark receiving honorable mention, while the writing award in business went to Gwendolyn Lawhorn, the branch’s student speaker at Commencement.

Finally, Clark was cited as the graduate whose college career, from very first college class to graduation, lasted the longest — 36 years! He also was recognized for this accomplishment at Commencement.



Pictured from the left at the Cincinnati Branch’s Senior Recognition Banquet are Christine Setser, who shared her WC experience; Dr. Sylvia Stevens, vice president for external programs; Alethea Marshall, who also offered a testimonial; Daniel Smith, recipient of the Distinguished Student Award; and Bob Sandman, recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Award.

NCAA SELECTS WC FOR CONCUSSION STUDY

\$30 million research is most comprehensive ever conducted



Terry Rupert observes as Brian Dykhuizen conducts a post-concussion test on freshman Taylor Priest, who sustained a concussion after being hit in the eye with a softball this spring.

Randy Sarvis

The NCAA selected Wilmington College to participate in the largest and most comprehensive study of concussion and head impact exposure ever conducted.

Wilmington is among 30 colleges and universities — most of which are Division I — named to the Concussion Assessment, Research and Education Consortium, which is gathering data for the study whose goal is to change concussion safety behaviors and the culture of concussion reporting and management.

This research is part of a \$30 million, NCAA-U.S. Department of Defense-sponsored initiative.

The study is enrolling an estimated 25,000 male and female NCAA student-athletes over a three-year study period. Wilmington College officially joined the consortium this summer for the study's third and final year.

Terry Rupert, vice president for athletic administration at WC, said the NCAA wished to expand the study group by nine institutions for the third year with a special interest in

enhancing Division III participation.

WC is the only Ohio institution in the study that includes such Division I heavyweights as the universities of Michigan, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh and Florida, as well as UCLA, Princeton, Virginia Tech and all the U.S. military academies.

Rupert said that WC was especially appealing for the study as a result of its "history and reputation" in athletic

"We're a cutting edge place for sport sciences and the NCAA is recognizing that." – TERRY RUPERT



training education, partnership with Beacon Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine's concussion specialists and the type of facility embodied by the College's new Center for Sport Sciences.

"They realized that, even though we're a small school, we have all these desirable attributes," Rupert said.

Rupert called WC's selection to the study a "prestigious opportunity" and described it as another manifestation of the vision for the Center for Sport Sciences that places the College at the center of "being involved in education and care for student-athletes" on the highest levels.

The NCAA was impressed with the athletic training area's emphasis on student-faculty research as a hands-on learning component of athletic training students' education.

"It's opening new doors in quality care, and it relates directly to the College's commitment to care for our student-athletes — this represents another criteria on which we can look parents in the eye and say, "We care about the health of your son or daughter,"" he added.

"We're a cutting edge place for sport sciences and the NCAA is recognizing that."

The NCAA was impressed with the athletic training area's emphasis on student-faculty research as a hands-on learning component of athletic training students' education. Program director Larry Howard '86 emphasized this academic component as carrying a lot of weight in the NCAA's selection.

"During the last three years, several semester-long, student-faculty research studies dealt with concussions," he said noting these 50-plus page research theses included a study involving the Cincinnati Bengals and some with collegiate student-athletes, one of which focused upon anxiety experienced following concussions.

"We listed our research in the application — this is what they were looking for, experience with this type of research," Howard added.

Erika Goodwin '95, professor of athletic training and vice president for academic affairs, teaches the research course that is required of all senior athletic training students. She mentioned this NCAA study should illustrate for her students — each of whom is required to complete an individual research thesis project — how research advances the profession and provides for a more enlightened society.

"This study shows the importance of research and how it can be used to effect change through better practices," she said.

Goodwin noted the specific WC research to include: "Perceptions of General Concussion Knowledge, Concussion Management, and Return to Play Protocol of



Certified athletic trainer Cathy Williams-Hays checks out a men's soccer player who had his bell rung. The NCAA instituted an enhanced concussion protocol several years ago for ATs to follow.

High School Football Coaches," by Morgan Holmes, Erika Smith-Goodwin and Jennifer Walker '97; "Knowledge and Attitudes of Certified Athletic Trainers on New EMS Spine Boarding Protocols," by Taylor James, Erika Smith-Goodwin and Linda Tecklenburg '96; "NFL Players' Knowledge and Perceptions of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE)," by Nick Brannon, Erika Smith-Goodwin and Larry Howard; and "Anxiety Levels of Athletes Returning to Play From Injury," by Matt Wright, Erika Smith-Goodwin and Robbie Oates.

WC's clinical staff of certified athletic trainers will play the key role in gathering the data. Headed by primary investigator Brian Dykhuizen, the team of ATs also includes investigators Alex Rhinehart '09, Cathy Williams-Hays '07 and Robbie Oates '12, each of whom will receive stipends for their work.

"Everyone on our AT staff will be involved with collection of data," Dykhuizen said, noting that athletic training students also will have opportunities to join in the data gathering as another component of their hands-on learning experience. "It's a great opportunity for our clinical staff and athletic training students to be involved in collecting outcome-based measures that will be used by the researchers to develop evidence-based practices.

"Ultimately, it will help those of us in the profession to better treat and manage concussions and head impact exposure for the benefit of all our student athletes."

SUGAR—‘YOU’VE REALLY GOT A HOLD ON ME’

7th Food Symposium looked at sugar from perspectives of history, business ethics, health and nutrition, social justice and, yes, tasting it



Senior Lee Turner fields questions from Mark Denniston as agriculture professor Tom Stilwell's World Foods class presented samples of food produced from more than two-dozen sugars, such as sugar cane, beet sugar, panela sugar, carob syrup and coconut sugar.

Randy Sarvis

In the weeks leading to the seventh annual Food Symposium in late March, agriculture professor Dr. Donald Chafin hung plastic bags containing a half pound of sugar on bulletin boards throughout Wilmington College's campus. The agricultural economist said each bag represents the amount of sugar "added by the food industry" to the diets of Americans each day.

"That half pound per day translates into about 150 pounds of sugar in a year's time," he said. "That is equivalent to three 50-pound horse feed bags for every man, woman and child each and every year."

Chafin, also placed the horse feed bags around campus, added, "At that level of consumption, sugar is a toxic poison!"

Devised using the theme "Sugar Rushed," the daylong

symposium featured a combination of film, food, fun and informed opinions on one of nature's sweetest and, in recent years, most controversial products.

Chafin said that, especially for the past 40 years, America literally has been on a sugar binge and, by 2030, a whopping 117 million Americans will be sickened with diabetes and, with numbers like that, the other half of the population will be called upon to help pay their medical bills.

Of special interest to college students, Chafin cited a UCLA study noting one-third of 18 to 39-year-olds in the United States are "pre-diabetic" — and without intervention, 70 percent will develop diabetes and be at risk of blindness, heart disease, kidney failure, poor health and premature death.

On a psychological level, sugar possesses much of the



same allure as nicotine and opiates, causing many persons to crave sugar — making it one of nature's great paradoxes as both a sweet treat and deadly obsession.

Dr. Victoria DeSensi, assistant professor of psychology, cited Kelly McGonigal's *The Willpower Instinct* in addressing the attraction of sugar.

"When we consume, encounter or just think about sugar, dopamine, a chemical messenger in the brain, is released and tells the brain it must obtain that rewarding, sugary sweet," she said, noting that one's body is on guard in recognizing that sugar and fat will produce a major spike in blood sugar.

"Therefore, a psychological response kicks in and prevents you from gorging yourself on the sugar by producing a natural drop in blood sugar — leaving one cranky and craving the sugar all the more."

More often than not, one's willpower succumbs to the temptation of cookies, candy and the sugar-coated and sugar-infused foods and drinks that line the grocers' shelves.

The Food Symposium viewed sugar from many perspectives — history, business ethics, health and nutrition, social justice and, yes, tasting it. Some of the presentations included the revelations:

- Sugar was a primary driver of European imperialism and slave labor.
- Trix, Fruit Loops and Captain Crunch are located at the lower levels of grocers' shelves for a reason — these super-sugary breakfast cereals are marketed to young children. Notice that Special K is usually on the higher shelves.
- The American Heart Assn. recommends men consume less than nine teaspoons of sugar a day; it's less than six teaspoons for women.
- Sodexo Campus Services, Wilmington College's dining services provider, uses about 400 pounds of sugar each month in preparing food for the dining hall. A sugarless meal was prepared the night before the symposium.



Senior Ashley Gorman displays the amount of sugar that comprises many popular drinks under the guise of fruit juices and sports hydration drinks. She presented research titled "Shake That Sugar."

• "Just because a food say it's 'natural' doesn't mean it's healthy," according to Kate Jennard, chef and healthy cooking educator.

• "If you want to stay healthy, keep moving. There are a million ways to get your heart rate up," said Paula Stewart, wellness educator.

Students presented their research on such topics as: "Sugar, Colonization and Slavery" by Cody Mathews, "Using Sugar to Fatten Cattle" by Lacie Evans, "Shake That Sugar" by Ashley Gorman, "Sugar-Coated Marketing" by Jadie Riewoldt, "Relationship between Sugar and Young Children" by Samantha Rowe and "Of Mice and Men: Effect of Sugar" by Kim Moore and Alex Barton.

Also, WC hosted the first Ohio screening of the documentary film, *Sugar Coated: How the Food Industry Seduced the World One Spoonful at a Time*.



The chocolate and peanut butter sugary sensation of Buckeyes allured many at the Symposium's candy-making competition. The student and non-student grand champions were freshman Emily Robnolte's Peppermint Patties and Birthday Cake Fudge from Dr. Russell Kincaid, associate professor of mathematics.



Chatting at the reception are, from the left, John Son, a Cincinnati State graduate currently working on his bachelor's degree through WC; Yvonne Baker, a Cincy State accounting professor; Stani Kantcheva, a Cincy State accounting professor; and Lora Hamilton, an alumnus of both Cincy State and WC ('15).

COLLEGE CELEBRATES 13 YEARS WITH CINCY STATE PROGRAM

Unique partnership allows associate's degree-holders to seamlessly pursue a WC bachelor's degree

Randy Sarvis

Wilmington College and Cincinnati State Technical and Community College reaffirmed their commitment to serving students through a unique educational model in which WC offers a baccalaureate degree program on Cincinnati State's campus.

Scores of alumni and students from WC's program at Cincinnati State, along with faculty, staff and administrators

from both institutions, celebrated the success of the partnership March 31 at a reception at Cincinnati State.

Dr. Sylvia Stevens, the program's founding director and currently WC's vice president for external programs, described it as "an exciting journey" while President Jim Reynolds called the partnership a "blessing that changes family trees" through the education of students. Cincinnati



CINCINNATI BRANCH CAMPUS NEWS

State's interim president, Dr. Monica Posey, mentioned it not only was one of the first partnerships she worked on at Cincinnati State, but also "one of the best."

Some 300 students have graduated from the program since it was established in 2003 with a cohort of 12 students.

One of those original students, Karen Magness-Lewe, recalled hearing "Wilmington is coming" while still a student at Cincinnati State. She enjoyed the Cincinnati State experience, not only the quality academics, but also the comfort level she found with its location, cost, parking and other institutional amenities — attributes that transferred seamlessly, along with her credits, from Cincinnati State to Wilmington College. She graduated from WC in 2007.

Magness-Lewe's success story is similar to that of many

"I initially didn't plan to go further than the associate's degree, but Sharron said, 'No, you're going to Wilmington College.'" — STEVE SALMON

that followed in her trailblazing footsteps.

Indeed, in the late 1990s, administrators at Cincinnati State realized the demand for a bachelor's degree program at the two-year institution. Many Cincinnati State students enjoyed the convenience and comfort level provided at its campus so much that they were returning for additional associate's degrees rather than pursuing the next level — the baccalaureate degree — at other area institutions.

At the time, with just a fraction of the schools now competing for the working adult student market, Wilmington College enjoyed a sizable share of Cincinnati-area students wishing to complete a bachelor's degree so, in recognizing WC's nationally accredited baccalaureate program already in Cincinnati, Cincinnati State approached Wilmington College about forming a partnership.

The WC program started with offering a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in business administration/management to which the concentration in accounting was soon added. WC currently also offers programs in multimedia studies and business administration analysis.

"Thank you for the trust you've placed in Wilmington College," Stevens said to her Cincinnati State peers, past and present. "We are in love with the students you've provided us from Cincinnati State — and we are committed to them."

A current student is John Son, who represents the first generation to attend college from his family that emigrated from Cambodia. Upon earning his associate's degree from Cincinnati State, he met with WC's program coordinator, Sharron Colon, who described a seamless transition into the College's baccalaureate program "that sounded too good to

be true."

Another student, Sierra Laumer, is studying accounting at WC with an ambition to become a Certified Public Accountant. "The teachers at Wilmington College, like Cincinnati State, are really invested in my success," she said.

Steve Salmon, a nontraditional student that earned an associate's degree in accounting technology at Cincinnati State, is double-majoring in management and accounting at WC.

"I initially didn't plan to go further than the associate's degree, but Sharron said, 'No, you're going to Wilmington College,'" Salmon said, noting he's never questioned the wisdom of his decision to attend WC. "It's refreshing to come to class and have an intelligent conversation with my professor — I look forward to going to class."

Shante Capel attended Cincinnati State on and off for 22 years and, upon earning her two-year degree, realized she needed a bachelor's degree for many job advancement possibilities. "I am a recipient of the benefits of the partnership between Cincinnati State and Wilmington College, and I truly appreciate that relationship."

Kevin Wesselman graduated Cincinnati State in 2010 with a 3.9 grade point average before attending Wilmington College and earning his four-year degree in 2014. While he considered completing his baccalaureate degree at one of the area's other four-year institutions, he realized there's no place like home.

"After spending four years here at Cincinnati State, I felt at home and, being able to stay on this campus was a big selling point for attending Wilmington College," he said, noting his love affair with the Cincinnati State campus continues through his position as a student recruiter with its Office of Admission.

Reynolds represents the first generation of his family to attend higher education. He spoke of how stories like those he heard at the reception have affected him in his roles as vice president for academic affairs and, now, president of Wilmington College.

"I've listened to these stories and I'm hooked," he said. "I'm so impressed by these students' perseverance and the things they've overcome to go to college. The students that have passed through these doors (at Wilmington College/Cincinnati State) have had a transforming experience that is meaningful, purposeful and remarkable."

"The teachers at Wilmington College, like Cincinnati State, are really invested in my success." — SIERRA LAUMER

CAMPUS ABUZZ WITH SPRING ACTIVITIES



Senior Linden Ayoki speaks about one of his paintings in the Senior Thesis Art Exhibit with gallery curator and art professor Hal Shunk.

Cultural, service and entertainment opportunities enhance students' Dub-C experience

All is not academics and outside-the-classroom, hands-on learning opportunities. Wilmington College offers its students and, often, the greater community, programming designed to further augment their knowledge, enjoyment of arts and cultural appreciation, and sometimes to just have some fun.

John Noltner merged his interests in photography and peace activism to create a multimedia art project that seeks to answer the question, "What does peace mean to you?" Harcum Art Galley hosted his acclaimed exhibit, "A Peace of My Mind," this spring.

The presentation combined photographs of diverse subjects and their personal stories exploring the meaning of peace. He included voices ranging from Holocaust survivors to the homeless and political refugees. Noltner proved that art and storytelling have the power to transform our hearts, as well as our communities.

This year's Senior Thesis Art Exhibit featured works by seniors Tiffany Barr and Linden Ayoki, whose artistic genres ran the gamut from her graphite pencils, pen and ink, and ceramics to his pastels, clay, painting, etching and drawing.

The summer show featured works by two faculty members and the colorful triptychs painted by 12-year-old abstract artist Nate Michaux Wilkinson, grandson of alumni Janet '67 and William '66 McDonald.

Pieces by Marta Wilkinson (no relation), associate professor of English, included series of works inspired by

memories ranging from her international travels to interests in the performance art of dance and the human form as depicted by the Renaissance masters. Brian Snowden, assistant professor of business administration at the Cincinnati Branch, presented photographs in which he attempted to exceed some of the limitations of the two-dimensional format by providing a "greater sense of depth and fullness" to his photographs.

WC Theatre presents *Five Women...* and Summer Theatre reprises *Cabaret*

Wynn Alexander directed Wilmington College Theatre's winter show, the presentation of Alan Ball's comedy, *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*. During an ostentatious wedding reception at a Knoxville, Tenn., estate, five reluctant, identically clad bridesmaids hide out in an upstairs bedroom. As the afternoon wears on, these five very different women joyously discovered a common bond in a wickedly funny, irreverent and touching celebration of the women's spirit.

Steven Haines '73 returned to College-Community Summer Theatre after a three-year hiatus to co-direct *Cabaret* with Cole Haugh. It featured alumnus Bryan Wallingford '02 reprising his role as the emcee in 1999's WC Theatre presentation of *Cabaret*, while other alumni featured in the cast were Haines, Cherie Cooper-Darragh '85, Victoria Canby '14, Gary Smith '15 and Rebekah Muchmore '14.



In a scene from College-Community Summer Theatre's production of *Cabaret*, American author Clifford Bradshaw gets seduced by cabaret entertainer Sally Bowles, played by Ryan Oates and Jessica Yankel, respectively.



Freshman Jason Altmayer checks his phone for recent text messages and social media posts. Dr. Corey Cockerill's communications class participated in a 24-hour media exclusion project in which they not only refrained from watching television, playing musical devices and listening to the radio, but also they could not speak or text on their cell phones, surf the Internet or engage in social media applications. That's right — no texting, Tweeting, Instagram, Snapchat or Facebook. No Android, iPad, iPod or iPhone. She believes their responses are very telling and "may lend insight into the impact of social media on student quality of life and educational performance."



Sophomore Hayes Tillapaugh "putts" during a campus disc golf match with sophomore Cody Nash. The College installed a nine-hole course on the north end of campus.



Sophomore sport management major Angelo Davis assists 11-year-old Dalton Brewer of Wilmington at the ball-and-racket station on the Quaker Backbreaker course. The activity gave students experience in developing, staging and promoting a sports-related event.



Michael Goldcamp, associate professor of chemistry, attempts to balance an egg on a spoon while riding a horse at the Faculty-Staff Horse Show in April. Equine studies student Kalynn Gillum is leading the horse.



Braving a brisk day to participate in the ninth annual Collegiate Relay for Life are, from the left, Caitlin Mathews, Emily Smith, Keni Brown and Mathew Perry.



Pictured at a dress rehearsal are four of the cast of *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, which WC Theatre produced in February. They are, from the left, Genesis Rocks, Keni Brown, Emily Knisley (standing) and Theresa Knopf (lying down.)

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Members of the College Chorale perform at the Spring Concert. Pictured from the left, they are: Kala Fox, Stephanie Randolph, Monique Altvater, Andrew Haag, Tevin Amburgy, Lauren Stacy and Dylan Andrews.

Spring Concert highlights 'Jim's Faves'

Collegium Musicum gave its annual spring mini-concert titled "Dance Early and Often." It featured 16th and 17th century dance music and instrumental arrangements of choral tunes.

At the annual Spring Choral Concert, the College Chorale, directed by Gina Combs Beck '91, presented a program titled "The Spirit of Music," which included the traditional spirituals, "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel," "Wade in the Water" and "Joshua! (Fit the Battle of Jericho)," The College-Community Chorus, under the direction of Elizabeth Brookie Haskins '73, paid tribute to the late Robert J. Haskins, emeritus professor of music, with a series of tunes called "Jim's Faves," which featured such standards as "Route 66," "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square" and "Tuxedo Junction."

QHC and PRC host popular exhibits

The Meriam R. Hare Quaker Heritage Center hosted a spring semester exhibit that explored "Peace Corps: 50 Years of Service, Bringing the World Home."

Curator Ruth Brindle '99 said the exhibit presented "images and first-person stories that bring the Peace Corps experience to life." She added that the event, like all QHC exhibits, strived to connect the student experience with the wider world of Friends and Quakerism, while specifically reflecting WC's Quaker-inspired values of community, diversity, peace and social justice, and service and civic engagement.

In June, the QHC hosted 243 fourth grade students from Wilmington's elementary schools for programming, designed by intern Dylan Hammond '16, that illustrated the experiences of enslaved persons associated with the Underground Railroad.

Meanwhile, this summer, the Peace Resource Center presented an exhibit depicting the intriguing "Journey of the Phoenix." In 1954, Barbara Reynolds and her family began a four-year "Peace Odyssey" in which they sailed around the world in their yacht to protest the development, testing and use of nuclear weapons in the aftermath of the bombing of Hiroshima.

Reynolds went on to establish the Peace Resource Center at Wilmington College in 1976, a place she selected as the depository for materials on the atomic bombing that hastened the end of World War II, yet left 140,000 dead and dying.

Etiquette Dinner gives students insight into manners, public presentation

Some 60 students learned at the annual Etiquette Dinner that, in spite of living in an increasingly casual and often coarse society, there is still a place for good manners and traditionally accepted protocol for interacting in a business or formal setting.

Sodexo Dining Services presented a program that included table manners and step-by-step instruction in formal dining, which can be a bit intimidating when just viewing an array of forks in a formal place setting.

Consider the three-tine salad fork, which is located to the left of the four-tine dinner fork (maybe there is a fish fork on the far left) in a formal place setting, while the dessert fork is positioned with the dessertspoon above the serving plate. Indeed, if one finds a fork on the right side of the place setting, that could only be a seafood or oyster fork.

Complicated? Somewhat. However, it was all explained — from the silverware, plates and glasses in the place setting to RSVPs, proper introductions and thank you notes — so it all made sense as knowledge for use.



Julie Henderson, Sodexo's food service manager at WC, serves the main course to sophomores Mitchell Pfaltzgraf (LEFT) and Dane Blumenstock.



TKB and DTS Lil Sis earn Greek distinction

WC's Greeks performed nearly 10,000 hours of community service, raised more than \$10,000 for philanthropic endeavors and hold many of the top leadership positions at the College. They were recognized for that and the key role they play in the campus community at the annual Greek Life Awards Program.

Tau Kappa Beta and Delta Theta Sigma Lil Sis earned the distinction of Fraternity and Sorority-of-the-Year while Garyck Todd of Sigma Zeta and Abby Jude of Kappa Delta were selected Greek Man and Woman-of-the-Year, respectively.

Also, the Greek community recognized Terry Inlow, assistant professor of art, with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his longtime support of Greek Life at WC. Inlow served as adviser for Sigma Zeta from the mid-1980s to the early 1990s, and he was the faculty representative to Greek Council for some 20 years.

58th Aggies Livestock Judging Contest attracts record numbers

A record-breaking 1,329 high school students judged dairy cattle, equine, general livestock and agronomy in March at the Wilmington College Aggies' 58th annual Livestock Judging Contest.

The event attracted students from 79 schools in Ohio and surrounding states for a competition billed as the largest east of the Mississippi River and, in the words of Aggies' adviser, Harold Thirey '71, assistant professor of agriculture: "With this year's turnout, it may be the largest in the USA!"

Thirey qualified the more than 1,300 high school 4-H and Future Farmers of America members as constituting at least a "modern-day record" during his nearly 40 years as a faculty member.

"The Aggies pulled this off superbly," he said, noting the contest was a student-produced event headed by the Aggies' president, junior Peter Blair. Students did everything from booking the facility and publicizing the competition with high school students to securing the livestock and hosting a major activity that draws the interest of so many persons wishing to hone their judging skills in advance of summer fairs and other competitions.

Students earn literary awards

Creative writing in the genres of poetry, short fiction and literary analysis essays took center stage this spring when Wilmington College students earned recognition for outstanding work at a ceremony held during the spring meetings of the President's Advisory Council.

Students garnered cash awards in the Kittay Poetry Competition, Bowman Short Fiction Contest and Cliff



Senior Micaela Wright received the Robert Lucas Award that recognizes the epitome of student leadership and tireless work toward the betterment of the College.

Hardie Literary Analysis Essay Competition.

Named after its benefactor, 1968 graduate Seth Kittay, the poetry competition winners were Lauren Stacy, first place (\$400), for her piece titled "Mess"; Carey Juillerat, second (\$200), "Elvis"; and Ashley Fox, third (\$100), "Where I Am From."

Longtime WC English faculty member, the late George Bowman, is the namesake for the short fiction contest. A \$150 first place prize went to Ashley Fox for her composition titled "Haiku Diem," with Shiloh Day taking second place (\$100) for "Left" and Katie Brewer third place (\$50) for "Liberation."

1965 alumnus Alan Frankel funds the Cliff Hardie award in honor of his friend and mentor, Hardie, professor emeritus of English. Winners for their literary analysis essay were: Upper Division — Ashley Fox, first place (\$350) and Taylor Turner, second (\$150); Lower Division — Kristine Culler, first (\$350), and Carey Juillerat, second place (\$150).



Working at the Quake Day of Service, junior Alec Rivers works a metal detector while senior Joe Njeru shovels as they attempt to locate the steel base anchors after a winter nonuse of a ball field at Denver Williams Park.



Long gone are the fads of college students eating goldfish or stuffing themselves into a phonebooth. Many students enjoy dancing to techno-beats while being sprayed and doused with glow-in-the-dark paint.



[ABOVE]

The annual Community Health Fair drew more than three-dozen vendors of health-related products and services. From the left, Andy Brinkman, former assistant men's soccer coach, speaks about Advocare sports performance products with women's soccer coach Steve Spirk '82 and freshmen Sarah Pierce and Nick Lumbard.

[RIGHT]

Intrigued with the Milde Fleur chickens that were part of the Sibs Weekend petting zoo are, from the left, Gabrielle Cain (sister of junior Noel Cain), Isabella Daugherty (sister of junior Monique Altwater), Kalee Nevels (who declared herself Monique's "honorary sib"), and Monique Altwater.



Enjoying a spring afternoon at the WC Veterinarians of Tomorrow's Dog Walk, a benefit for the Wilmington Area Humane Society are, from the left, Raegan Snyder with her Cocker Spaniel, Boomer, and Adriane Jeff, with Oliver, a King Charles Cavalier.





7th Faculty–Student Research Forum highlights 56 projects

The presence of 70 students displaying their research via posters and other presentation media transformed the normally athletics-oriented Fred Raizk Arena in Hermann Court into a strictly academic setting at the Seventh Annual Student Research Forum.

The 56 research projects spanned across academic disciplines as faculty, staff and students took time out from the study day prior to the start of final exams to peruse the presentations and learn first-hand from student researchers.

Students recognized for scholarship and leadership

President Jim Reynolds described April's 35th annual Student Recognition Convocation as a manifestation of students' commitment to the academic mission of the College and an affirmation their partnership with faculty and staff.

May graduate Micaela Wright received the Robert E. Lucas Leadership Award that recognizes the graduating senior "who is respected by the entire College community, has a dynamic and optimistic personality and has made a significant contribution to the campus."

Reynolds called Wright, who served as 2015–16 student government president, the "very model of student leadership" whose service and leadership activities — "numerous and rich" — encompass both the campus and greater Wilmington community. "Micaela has provided us with a living example of the often transformational nature of the Wilmington College experience."

Et cetera: Orlando Vigil, Tyhimba & International Festival

• The College's longtime tradition of social activism continued this summer when a group comprised of WC students, alumni and local residents staged a vigil in June in memory of the victims of the mass killing in Orlando, Fla., and in support of their friends and families.

They gathered at the corner of Main and College streets in an effort that coincided with vigils and related activities being held throughout the country in memory of the 49 Americans killed and 53 injured when a gunman declaring allegiance to the radical, Islamic jihadist group ISIS sprayed Orlando's Pulse gay night club with rounds from an assault rifle and handgun.



Senior Chris Jackson, a soon-to-be graduate, receives a sash symbolizing his African heritage from his father, Solomon Jackson, during the Tyehimba ceremony. Chip Murdock and Jim Reynolds are observing in the background.

• Chip Murdock said those multicultural students that would graduate May 7 represented "strength, success and hope" to all those that have been part of their journey at Wilmington College.

"You're survivors," said Murdock, director of multicultural affairs. "And I believe in you and I love you. I receive monetary compensation once a month but I get paid once a year. Your graduation is my payday! You are a fulfilled promise and the fruit of our labor."

The occasion for Murdock's powerful words was Tyehimba, a ceremony with African roots that recognizes the heritage of those that are on the verge of accomplishing a significant milestone in their lives. The self-described, 16 graduates-of-color have family roots not only in Africa but also in Kenya, Puerto Rico, Mexico and Jamaica.

"Tyehimba also celebrates the families and friends of those graduates who will soon be walking across the stage," he added.

• Global awareness and appreciation was the theme inherent in the International Club's semiannual International Festival this spring, which featured foods from such nations as Sweden, Portugal, Greece, Jamaica and Costa Rica, along with music and photos from around the world.

The organization, which is comprised of both international and American students, also hosted a six-program speaker series that in 2015–16 that highlighted WC community members' experiences in Colombia, Haiti, Vietnam, Greece, Ghana and Ireland.

MERCER WAS 'GO-TO PERSON' FOR STUDENTS' ACADEMIC NEEDS

Carol Mercer: 'Students are the best part of the job'



Carol Mercer chats with senior Rachel Drake (left) and junior Carly Pritchard in the Student Resource Center.

Judy Harvey

Carol Mercer spent much of her adult life at Wilmington College supporting students and their success.

Starting as an assistant to the secretary and receptionist in the President's Office, Mercer spent most of her 30 years as coordinator of accommodations, tutoring and supplemental instruction for the Student Resource Center. Students knew her as the go-to person for help with their academic needs.

One graduate said of Mercer: "She made it so much easier for me. I knew all I had to do was walk into her office, and she would help me out."

During her tenure, Mercer paired over 100 students with peer tutors each year, arranged group study sessions and directed the national Supplemental Instruction program on the Wilmington College campus. She also provided testing and other accommodations for students with disabilities and supervised Student Resource Center student workers.

Mercer enjoyed her student-centered position and

described students as "the best part of the job. The SRC is student centered; that's what we do. I'll miss those friendships."

However, some former students, in particular, have given her the most cause for pride. Daughters Cheryl Mercer '93, Dr. Julie Mercer-Dasher '99 and Jennifer Martin '03 are all Wilmington College graduates themselves. Cheryl is now a mortgage broker representative for General Electric Credit Union, Cincinnati; Julie is an optometrist with her own practice in Springfield; and Jennifer serves as principal at East End Elementary in the Wilmington City School District.

"I feel that my daughters are great examples," Mercer added, "of the wonderful education that is provided by Wilmington College through the dedicated efforts of the faculty and all who work so hard to prepare our students for life beyond college."

She is currently enjoying retirement with her husband, Jerry, and their three grandchildren.



Senior Rachel Drake explains her research to Watson Library director Brian Hickam at the Student-Faculty Research Forum. She earned OATA's Exceptional Undergraduate Original Research Award for her work titled "Can Total Motion Release Increase Shoulder Range of Motion in Collegiate Swimmers?"

SENIOR'S ATHLETIC TRAINING RESEARCH EARNS OHIO'S TOP AWARD

Senior Rachel L. Drake is the latest in a long line of Wilmington College students to earn the Exceptional Undergraduate Original Research Award presented by the Ohio Athletic Trainers' Association (OATA).

Drake, a senior from Fairfield who graduated in May, is the ninth WC athletic training major to receive this state award in the past 11 years. Her research is titled "Can Total Motion Release Increase Shoulder Range of Motion in Collegiate Swimmers?"

She presented her findings at the OATA State Symposium. In addition, her findings will be published in the *Journal of Sports Medicine and Allied Health Services*. To complement a most successful spring, Drake also learned she passed the Board of Certification Exam for athletic training, decided to attend graduate school in physician assistant

training at the University of Dayton and her research won "Best of Class" at the Wilmington College Student-Faculty Research Forum.

Co-authors of the research are WC faculty members Erika Smith-Goodwin '95, professor of athletic training and vice president for academic affairs; Linda Tecklenburg '96, associate professor of athletic training; and Alex Rhinehart '09, assistant professor of sport sciences.

Goodwin, who teaches the research course, praised Drake as an outstanding student.

"Completing original research is important in any field, but especially in athletic training," she said, noting that Drake selected a topic in which she was particularly interested, as she was a collegiate swimmer. "This research experience should greatly benefit Rachel as she goes to PA school."

PUSH TO THE FINISH LINE

Campaign reaches 84 percent of goal as it enters final 18 months

Wilmington College’s ambitious Leave Your Mark Campaign is poised for achieving its \$21.2 million goal with less than a year-and-a-half remaining.

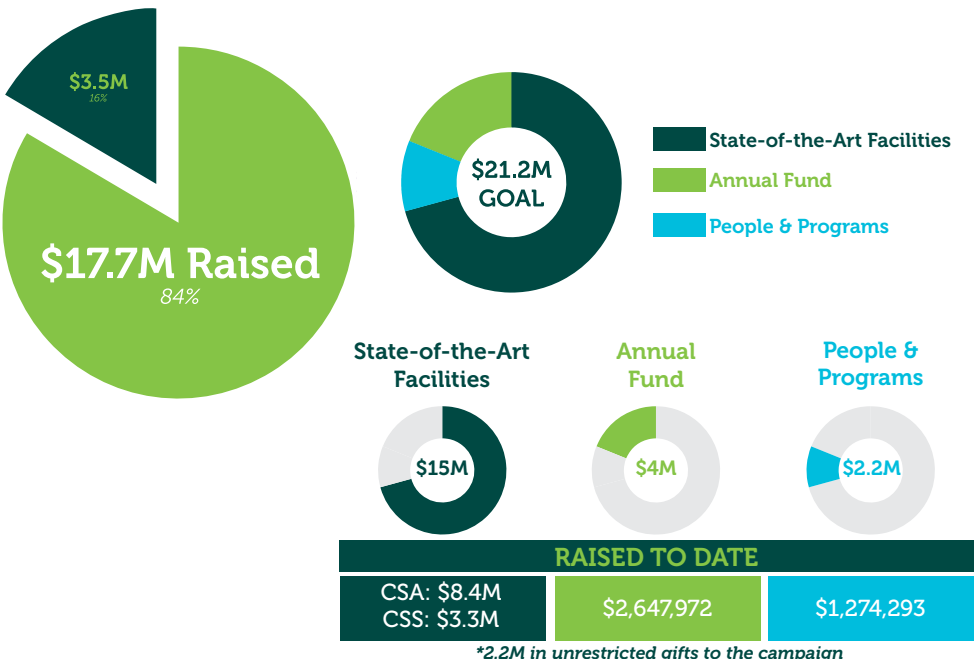
The 2016 fiscal year ended June 30 with \$17,768,214 raised during the multiyear endeavor, an impressive 84 percent as the push for the finish line commences.

Gifts in FY16 totaled nearly \$3.4 million and marked the second consecutive year giving topped \$3 million. In the scope of the campaign, the \$8,431,911 raised for the Center for the Sciences and Agriculture exceeded the \$7 million goal for that facility, while the \$1,174,293 generated toward scholarships eclipsed the \$1 million goal.

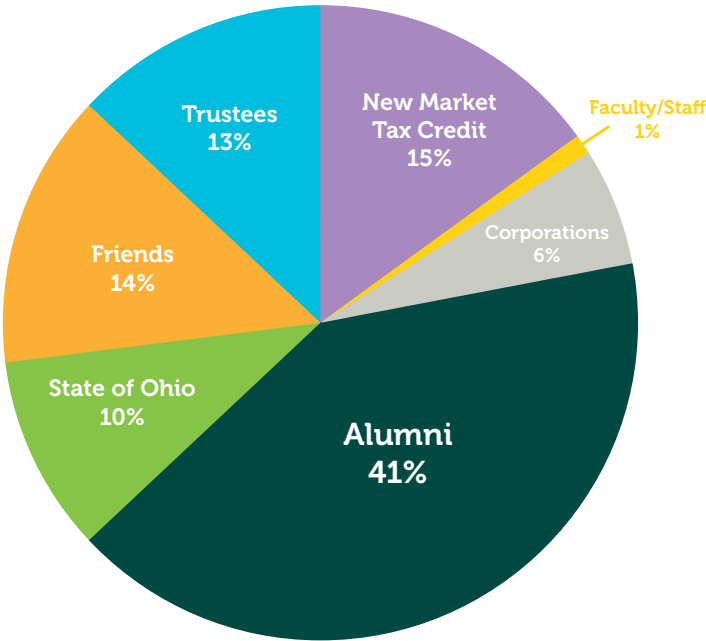
Gifts during the 2015–16 year came in both large and small, as evidenced by three gifts totaling a \$1 million or more and hundreds of smaller ones that brought in \$834,965 in support of The Wilmington Fund.

Students are already benefiting from the generosity of alumni and friends in their support of the campaign, as not only have scholarship funds been expanded and bolstered, but also the Center for Sport Sciences opened in August 2015 with the Center for the Sciences & Agriculture opening incrementally with the new wing in January 2016 and the renovated area this August.

President Jim Reynolds expressed the College’s appreciation for the commitment of alumni and friends to teaching and learning, and stressed how critical it is to achieve a successful conclusion to the campaign over the next 15 months.



SOURCES OF GIFTS





From the left, President Jim Reynolds expresses the College's appreciation to State Sen. Bob Peterson and House Speaker Clifford Rosenberger when the legislators publicly voiced their support for the Center for the Sciences and Agriculture, among other local initiatives, in the capital budget bill.

RECORD 3 GIFTS EACH TOPPED \$1 MILLION IN FY16

Big donors show support and inspire others

Gifts of the magnitude of \$1 million are rare and elusive, but the 2016 fiscal year realized a record three ranging from \$1 million to \$1.5 million.

These most generous gifts went a long way in poising the College on the threshold of achieving its \$21.2 million Leave Your Mark Campaign goal by the end of calendar year 2017.

These donors include Dr. Charles Karpas, who pledged a \$1 million challenge gift in memory of his late wife and 1958 alumnus, Linda Cheng Karpas; a currently unnamed alumnus from the early 1950s residing in southern California, who remembered her alma mater to the tune of \$1 million; and the State of Ohio, which included \$1.5 million in its fiscal year 2017 capital budget for the Center for the Sciences and Agriculture (CSA).

The Karpas gift went toward the CSA, which has a 91-seat academic space now known as the Linda Cheng Karpas Lecture Hall.

Details are being worked out regarding the currently anonymous gift from the California alumnus and how best

to recognize her generosity.

Finally, as the fiscal year ticked down, College officials learned that \$1.5 million earmarked for Wilmington College in the State of Ohio's capital spending bill was approved. The funds, which are part of those designed to enhance Ohio's STEM (science, technology, engineering and medicine) education, are earmarked in support of the CSA.

Both Clifford A. Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives, and State Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) highlighted WC's success in the agricultural sciences — training vocational agriculture teachers in particular. They wished to support the facility as a reflection of the state's embrace of technology and advocacy of Ohio agriculture as an economic driver. Gov. John Kasich signed the bill into law.

Rosenberger said the CSA and other local projects would assist in "spurring economic development and positively influencing quality of life."

MILESTONES



Ed Agran



Mary Lynn Barber



Jennifer Burger



Bev Carpenter



Vicki DeSensi



Charlotte Fairlie



Karen Garman



Tim Hawk



Martha Hendricks



Terry Inlow



Daniel Kelly



Jennifer Kelsen

Faculty/staff retire, transition, earn promotions, gain accolades

The conclusion of the 2015–16 academic year witnessed the retirement of eight long-time faculty and staff that concluded decades of service — a cumulative 231 years! — on behalf of Wilmington College's students.

In order of descending years at WC, KAREN GARMAN, registrar and assistant dean for academics, retired after 44 years. She started at WC working in the library before, in 1977, beginning a progression of positions in Academic Records that included credentials clerk, assistant director, acting director, director and, in 1991, registrar. Garman was special assistant to the vice president for academic affairs during 1998 and became assistant dean for academic affairs in 1999, with registrar added to her title in 2003.

TERRY INLOW, assistant professor of art, announced his retirement after 41 years on the faculty (story coming in winter *LINK*). RHONDA BURTON, assistant to the vice president for academic affairs since 1997, started in 1982 as an administrative assistant for Project Talents and then assistant to the director of financial aid for eight years.

CAROL MERCER, tutor coordinator for the Academic Resource Center since 2008, retired after 32 years. She came to WC in 1984 as secretary/receptionist for both the offices of the President and Development before, in 1993, joining the staff at the Skills Center, which is now known as the Academic Resource Center.

BEVERLY CARPENTER came to WC in 1987 as secretary/receptionist for both the offices of the President and Development. Her significant institutional knowledge proved especially valuable as new staff members joined the development and alumni relations areas. For the past 15 years, she was a mainstay in Advancement, most recently as gift recorder.

BOB SANDMAN, assistant professor of business administration, joined the Cincinnati Branch in 1991 as an adjunct faculty member before serving full time in 2011. DR. EDWARD AGRAN, professor of history, served on the faculty since 1993 and his wife, CHARLOTTE FAIRLIE, associate professor of English, started as an adjunct in 1993 and went full time in 2000.

Also, part-time grants writer SHARI LEWIS retired after working at WC since 2010.



Shari Lewis



Domenic Marzano



Carol Mercer



Kathy Milam



Brandi Montgomery



Jim Reynolds



Bob Sandman



Luis Sierra



Laura Struve



Brett Yenger



Marta Wilkinson

Leaving the College to pursue other career opportunities were faculty members: DR. DANIEL KELLY, associate professor of sport management since 2013; KATHRYN KENNEDY, assistant professor of accounting for the past year; DR. LUIS SIERRA, assistant professor of history since 2014; and JENNIFER BURGER, assistant professor of psychology since 2014.

Staff members that left were: JENNIFER KELSEN, academic/financial aid coordinator at the Blue Ash Branch since 2006; CHUCK DUERRE, director of Campus Safety since 2013; ANDREA VERITY, administrative computing technician in IT since 2012; MICHAEL ROUSH, customer service coordinator in IT for the last year; BRANDI (FORNSHELL) MONTGOMERY '12, admission representative since 2014; and MARY LYNN BARBER, director of counseling services since 2010.

In athletics, DOMENIC MARZANO and BRETT YENGER, head coach of the men's and women's lacrosse teams, respectively, left this summer. Both started their respective programs in 2013.

Faculty members earning promotions or tenure effective July 1 included DR. VICTORIA DESENSI, assistant professor of psychology, who was granted tenure; DR. MARTHA HENDRICKS, who was promoted from associate to full professor of education; and DR. LAURA STRUVE, who was promoted from associate to full professor of English.

At the Greek Life Awards ceremony in April, TERRY INLOW was recognized with the Greek Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions as a former fraternity adviser with Sigma Zeta and longtime faculty representative to Greek Council. Also, KATHY MILAM and TIM HAWK were named co-Advisers-of-the-Year for their work with Alpha Phi Kappa sorority and Tau Kappa Beta fraternity, respectively.

Cincinnati Branch students selected BOB SANDMAN for its annual Outstanding Faculty Award, while the Student Government Assn. gave DR. MARTA WILKINSON, associate professor of English, its Teaching Excellence Award and SONIA THOMPSON, student financial services representative, received the Van Black Award, which recognizes faculty and staff members for supporting students outside of their specific positions.

Also, PRESIDENT JIM REYNOLDS received a 2016 C-Suite Award as a leading chief executive officer in the Cincinnati region. The editorial team at Venue Media and leadcincinnati.com nominated him for the award, whose recipients include the CEOs of Procter & Gamble and Western & Southern Financial Group.



EYE-OPENERS AND GAME-CHANGERS

Ed Agran and Charlotte Fairlie retire from humanities faculty

Randy Sarvis

With backgrounds as different as southern California and England, husband and wife Edward Agran and Charlotte Fairlie found at Wilmington College a refreshingly diverse student body that both challenged them as faculty members and intellectually enriched them as scholars.

"I was opened up to a whole another window in America," said Agran, professor of history and a faculty member since 1993, noting he previously had not worked with such critical masses of first generation students, those from rural backgrounds and African-Americans.

"Coming out of powerhouse graduate schools (universities of Colorado and Wisconsin), working at Centre and

Wilmington was a new world I knew nothing about — it was a real eye-opener."

It was one they both relished through their retirement this summer.

Fairlie, associate professor of English, grew up in London, while Agran was reared in Studio City, Calif., and attended West Hollywood High School with the likes of actors John Ritter (of TV's *Three's Company* fame), Jay North (Dennis on *Dennis the Menace*) and Geri Weil (Judy on *Leave It to Beaver*).

He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at UCLA before pursuing his master's at Colorado. Meanwhile, Fairlie's



father, Henry, was a notable essayist/political journalist who moved to Boulder, Colo., which opened the door for her to study in America.

"What 18-year-old could resist Boulder in 1972?" she said, noting she earned her bachelor's degree at Colorado, where she and Agran met while taking the same class.

Upon earning their degrees, they moved to Madison, Wis., where Agran was a teaching assistant while embarking upon his Ph.D. program in history. He spent 1985 through 1993 on the history faculty at Centre College, Danville, Ky., while she worked on her master's degree from the University of Kentucky and taught as an adjunct at several institutions.

They also had their son, Thomas, and daughter, Hannah, while in Kentucky.

"The faculty at Wilmington are tremendously engaged with students and the institution — they really care. We felt our children should have that kind of education." — ED AGRAN

The family moved to Wilmington in 1993 with Agran joining the College's history faculty and Fairlie working as an adjunct and, later, becoming the director of the library and academic support services at nearby Chatfield College. She joined WC's English faculty full time in 2000.

Agran took his American history background and created special topics courses like *The 1960s*, *The Great Depression*, and *Race, Gender and Ethnicity*, the latter of which originated from a course he taught on African-American history.

"It ended up being a wonderful class and seemed to be the greatest eye-opener for students," he said, noting it featured such books as *Malcolm X*, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*. He added that those topics courses resulted in a "good synergy" between students, professor and subject matter.

Fairlie, whose specialty is English and Scottish literature, enjoyed the challenge of several courses that originated as a result of WC's student body. *School Stories* was a course designed for education majors and featured images of students and teachers in literature, while her *Modern Literature of War and Peace* especially resonated in the early years of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Her course, *Literature of Rural Life and the Environment*, was conceived to appeal to WC's numerous agriculture majors.

"The feedback from that was tremendous," she said. "It got them thinking more consciously about nature and, I think, they saw a kinship with people in Africa. Some see environmentalism as political and lefty, but it opened their minds to nature.

"Literature is a non-threatening way to get students to

open their minds. It provides a better understanding of one's place in the world."

Fairlie recalls an agriculture alumnus telling her, "You'll never know how much taking literature courses has helped me personally and professionally." She said other former students "surprised themselves" both as talented writers and lovers of literature.

"When they tell you, 'Not only can I do this, but I enjoy it too,' then you know you've changed their lives in some way," she said.

Agran also appreciated his interactions with African-American students, which was a cohort with which he had little exposure before coming to WC. "That was a game-changer for me and it was wonderful," he added.

"Coming into small, liberal arts schools was a real eye-opener," he said. "The faculty at Wilmington are tremendously engaged with students and the institution — they really care. We felt our children should have that kind of education."

They did. Thomas and Hannah attended much smaller schools than the UCLAs, Colorados and Wisconsin of their parents.

Agran and Fairlie especially enjoyed the "intimacy" of WC and how even their presence outside the classroom could affect the student experience. She mentioned how "meaningful" to her was working with colleagues and students on both the "mission-related" Westheimer Peace Symposium and Food Symposium planning committees, while Agran spoke of supporting his students in their passion for sport.

"When you go and watch soccer or track, these students are so happy and proud you're out there seeing what they're so engaged in — that's really rich," he added.

In early June, Agran and Fairlie moved to Iowa City, Iowa, where son Thomas, a professional artist, his wife and daughter reside. Hannah, food editor for *Midwest Living* magazine, and her family live in Des Moines.

"We raised our children thousands of miles away from their grandparents," Fairlie said, noting how pleased they are that both children's families reside in the same area. Not only that, Iowa City is a vibrant college town, with the University of Iowa, that she described as "a rich, intellectual environment."

Indeed, it is the only UNESCO-designated City of Literature in North America.

In retirement, Fairlie expressed an interest in such endeavors as traveling to Scandinavia, buying a canoe, hiking in the western National Parks and returning to Spain. Agran spoke of visiting Machu Pichu, walking dogs in Iowa City and volunteering at a retirement home, where he would engage residents to tell their stories — the stories of America.

"I've had my place in the sun and it's time to step aside for a younger generation to bring their talents and understanding of the world into the classroom," she said. "Plus, the thought of retirement is tremendously liberating."

BOB SANDMAN WAS BRANCH'S 'UTILITY INFIELDER'

Professor retires after 25 years to join his wife in Maine



Bob Sandman is all smiles as he poses with Sylvia Stevens as she presented him as the 2016 Outstanding Faculty Award recipient at the Senior Recognition Banquet.

Randy Sarvis

The baseball term “utility infielder” refers to players whose skills and versatility make it possible to play multiple positions on the ball diamond, be counted on to cover when teammates are incapacitated and otherwise contribute to the team’s success.

Bob Sandman has been the Cincinnati Branch’s utility infielder, a jack-of-all-trades willing to try teaching new courses when called upon while working as a partner with students in helping them achieve their educational goals.

Sandman, assistant professor of business administration, who taught 17 different courses over the past 25 years, retired this summer to join his wife, Kathy, in Standish, Maine, where she has been a nursing professor at St. Joseph’s College since December.

Sandman recalls the circumstances that brought him to the Cincinnati Branch in 1991. He worked at Cincinnati’s South-Western Publishing and needed teaching experience to get the promotion he wanted, so he applied for an adjunct faculty position at the former Tri-County campus.

He met with longtime Cincinnati Branch dean Iris Kelsen, who, at the conclusion of their interview, noted, “I’m a very

intuitive person. I think you’ll do fine.”

With that, he began 25 years of spending many of his evenings teaching macroeconomics, a course he instructed 34 times. Sandman, who has both a Master of Arts and Master of Business Administration degree, enjoyed the teaching experience and quickly added microeconomics and other courses to his repertoire.

Coming from the publishing world at age 35, he realized many students in his classes would be older than he, so Sandman began wearing a necktie to portray “authority.” Even though his initial anxiety about a need for visually emphasizing his role in the classroom proved unfounded — he never had issues with gaining the respect of his students — his omnipresent necktie became part of his image. So was his willingness to expand his teaching dossier.

He edited a textbook on business law and ended up teaching the subject and, when Kelsen needed someone to instruct statistics, Sandman recalled, “I told her, ‘I’d like to try it.’ I found myself filling gaps that popped up.”

In teaching a management class, he was able to talk about his own experience working with a publishing company with



CINCINNATI BRANCH CAMPUS NEWS

a special emphasis upon his interest in such areas as organizational hierarchy and employee empowerment.

"It was very fun to work with that interplay between my work experience and their work experience as it related to the day's class topic," he said, adding it was especially important for him to make connections between the day's lesson in business and economics, and its work world application.

"I always set a goal that each day students would learn something in my class that they could put to use that week, something that tied together their work experience and education," he said. "I was intent that what they learned in the classroom would feed back and enrich their work experience."

Sandman possesses a high regard and admiration for the nontraditional students that juggle employment, families and community responsibilities with their desire for attaining a college degree.

"I always set a goal that each day students would learn something in my class that they could put to use that week." – BOB SANDMAN

"I have a great respect for how hard the students work and how seriously they take their classes," he said.

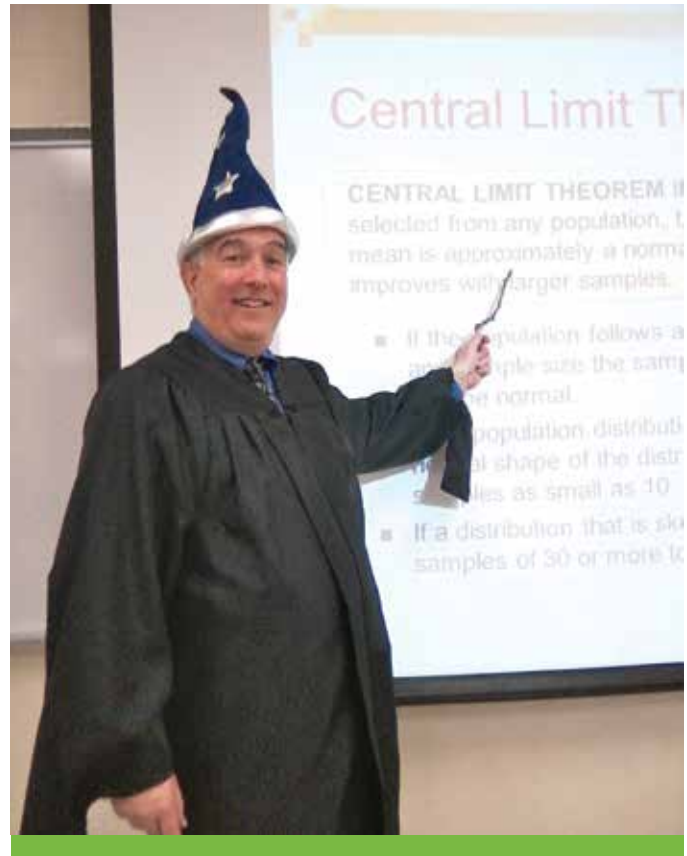
Sandman also spoke about how both he and his students came to greatly appreciate Wilmington College's international awareness requirement. He developed the senior Global Issues course, The Music and Literature of Mexico and Germany. He selected those seemingly opposite nations because his mother was a native of Mexico and his father was of German heritage.

"I came to realize much interconnection between Mexico and Germany, as many German immigrants came to Mexico and the part of Mexico that is now Texas," he said. "One of the things I really enjoyed about the course is it was such a contrast to teaching business and economics courses — it was a different way of expressing myself."

His unique means for self-expression also became a well-known part of the Sandman persona, as he was known to wear costumes in class, lead games related to subject matter and engage in other activities that displayed his enthusiasm and high energy level as tools for holding students' attention.

"I quickly learned how hard it is sometimes to teach students that worked all day, had a quick dinner and then came here for three hours of class," he said, adding that a student favorite was when he donned an academic robe and wizard's hat at Halloween. "I was trying to bring some energy to the subject matter."

Sandman's antics and, more importantly, his teaching acumen and concern for students were recognized when stu-



Bob Sandman is remembered for often making learning fun, as he did one Halloween night dressed as the economics wizard.

dents selected him as recipient or co-recipient of the annual Outstanding Faculty Award eight times since the 1998–99 academic year, including 2016's honor.

"It's very gratifying to be honored by students in that way," he said.

Sandman left the publishing company in 2007 and became a self-employed author of business and economics textbooks and related materials before, in 2011, becoming a full-time faculty member at the Cincinnati Branch. He taught at both the Blue Ash and Cincinnati State campuses.

With his move to Maine, he expects to resume his freelance publishing work with a hope of also finding new teaching opportunities.

"I don't think anything will be as gratifying as teaching the students I've had here at the Cincinnati Branches — I loved it!" he said. "It's been gratifying to see how successful so many have been. I take away a real sense of satisfaction that so many alumni — because of my small contributions and everyone's at the Cincinnati Branches — are able to have personal and professional successes.

"I'm so glad for that."



The College recognized Karen Garman at its Commencement, an event in which she, as registrar, has played an integral role in figuring grades and academic honors, and preparing diplomas.

PERFECTIONIST FINDS BEAUTY IN THE DETAILS

Registrar Karen Garman retires to her gardens after 44 years at WC

Randy Sarvis

Karen Garman draws a close parallel between her long-time occupation of working at Wilmington College and her retirement avocation of tending her beautiful gardens.

"Both have a beginning, they change from year-to-year and there's an end to it. Just like a garden, college has seasons and there's a new crop in the fall," said Garman, who retired this summer after 44 years at WC.

Let's extend the garden metaphor to include Garman's nearly 25 years as registrar.

Viewing the 100 or so varieties of flowers artistically positioned in her immaculately planted areas, one sees the work of a perfectionist, which fits the precision, attention to detail, demand for accuracy — along with caring about students — inherent with heading the Academic Records Office in its work with student course scheduling, recording grades, computing GPAs, determining graduation qualifications and numerous other behind-the-scenes activities.

Whether it's in the garden or on campus, Garman de-

scribes herself as one that revels in detail work, even identifying as often having an obsessive/compulsive personality.

"When you're raised by two perfectionist parents, it's bound to happen, plus, being a perfectionist is one of the requirements of the job," she added.

Garman joined the College's library staff right after high school and that position's flexible hours afforded her the opportunity to take courses at Wright State University toward her eventual bachelor's degree in business administration.

She admitted getting "fidgety" in her library job and, after five years, took over the position of credentials clerk in the Academic Records Office. Her vertical progression there included assistant director, acting director and in, 1991, director of academic records, which later was renamed registrar.

"I liked the detail of it and I liked that I got to work with students day-in and day-out," she said noting that, in those



days before online course scheduling, students met directly with records staff to schedule their classes.

Her career and life hit a major detour in 1997 when, in her words, “I was gravely ill and my light was dim.” She credits her WC colleagues with helping her endure the ordeal as she ultimately returned to good health.

“They filled my mailbox with well wishes and my heart with love — most of my very dearest friends are Wilmington College people,” she said, adding that regular letters she received from chemistry professor Dore Meinholtz were representative of their healing effect.

“When we’re gravely ill, people often dwell on the illness, but Dore’s letters were about what was happening at the College on a day-to-day basis — her letters were just amazing!” She said those notes laden with Meinholtz’s distinct combination of wit and sarcasm brightened even her darkest days.

“I’ll be out there when the sun is coming up and I’ll spend many hours outside.” — KAREN GARMAN

Garman’s eventual return to WC — “whole again” — resulted in a change of responsibilities. She became special assistant for the vice president of academic affairs in 1998, a position whose title was changed the next year to assistant dean for academic affairs. She returned as registrar in 2003 and maintained the assistant dean component of her title.

All those years in Academic Records witnessed the transformation from typewriters, carbon paper and mimeograph machines to such technological advances as online registration. In her 44 years — one third of the College’s existence — Garman saw some 10,000 degrees conferred while serving under five presidents and eight academic deans. The faces of hundreds of students with whom she joyfully worked remain indelibly etched in her memory.

“For me, what strikes me most is some of those students changed drastically while they were here at Wilmington College,” she said. “I believe we’ve done the absolute best for them we could possibly do.”

Garman expects retirement will enable her to spend more time with friends and family, and for her and Charlie, her husband of 40 years, to travel extensively and take vacations during non-summer months, something she rarely felt able to do. First on the schedule will be three weeks in New England during leaf-peeping season.

But her first appointment upon retirement was in her beloved gardens, which permeate their rural Wilmington home. The nearly 100 varieties of flowers and plants feature a brilliantly colorful collection of lilies with names like Buttered Popcorn, Christmas in Oz, Mary Todd Lincoln, Wild Wookie, Zwolli Tamale, Fe-Fi-Fo-Fum and, not to be missed, Karen’s Curls.

“I’ll be out there when the sun is coming up and I’ll spend many hours outside. I like to come inside during the heat of



Karen Garman provides a tour of her expansive gardens that feature some 100 varieties of flowers and plants, including an impressive collection of Day Lilies.

the afternoon and then go back in the evening,” she said, adding how their cats, Shiloh and Percy, enjoy the attention she gives them while gardening. Their dogs, Kira and Quincy, are just a stone’s throw away in a luxurious, well-shaded enclosed part of the yard.

Garman contends that her longtime “love affair” with Wilmington College will not end, however “after 56 years of carrying a school lunch, I am retiring my lunch bag,” she joked, noting she looks forward to “dropping in” on her colleagues, attending cultural events at WC and keeping abreast with how the College progresses.

“I think the biggest issue for me will be the social aspect of it. We spend more time with individuals at work than we do with our family,” she added. “I leave with gratitude, a full heart and the knowledge that the people of WC will continue to educate and inspire in amazing ways.

“I’m always amazed at what is accomplished at WC. Always.”

SUPER SENIORS: SWIMMER AND THROWER HIGHLIGHT SEASON

Jayson Ameer Rasheed '00

Campbell named *D-III News* Freshman All-America

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: The women's basketball team struggled with injuries all season long, rebounded late to win four of its last five games and finished the season 11-16 overall.

"We had a very frustrating season, where every time we were ready to take a big step forward, we would suffer another key injury that would set us back," said head coach Jerry Scheve.

Junior Brittaney Jefferson, moving to point guard after senior Ashley Andracki sustained a season-ending injury, played admirably as the team's second leading scorer, averaging 14.3 points per game. Jefferson, who was named second team All-OAC, led the team with 67 assists and was third on the team with 4.7 boards.

A season highlight was the debut of a potential superstar as Mackenzie Campbell, a freshman who burst onto the scene as the Ohio Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year with a team-leading 14.9 points per game. She was also named second team All-OAC and Freshman All-America by *DIII News*.

Campbell reached double figures in 19 of the last 20 games, including a career-high 27 points against John Carroll and a 25-point performance against the Blue Streaks in WC's 67-57 upset win in the first round of the OAC tournament.



Freshman Mackenzie Campbell moves to the basket in the Quakers' upset win over nationally ranked Capital.



Will Patrick drives for the basket in action against Heidelberg.

Men's basketball relies on young players

MEN'S BASKETBALL: It was a season of growth for the men's basketball team as they managed a 5-19 overall record, 4-14 in the Ohio Athletic Conference.

Wilmington returned just one starter and only 21 percent of its scoring from the previous season, so the Fightin' Quakers knew there would be some growing pains.

"The 2015-2016 season was a transition year for our program," head coach K.C. Hunt said. "We played nine freshman and sophomores who gained invaluable experience."

Senior Zach McCorkle started the season with a double-double, and finished the season as the team leader in points and rebounds. He dropped in 14.2 points per game with 6.5 rebounds, and was named honorable mention All-OAC for his efforts.

Sophomore Christian Jones was the focal point of opposing team's perimeter defensive strategies, and was still able to shoot 43 percent from the field while averaging 13.5 points per game. In the season opener, Jones established a new school record making 18 free throws.

WINTER SPORTS WRAP

Hawk wins OAC 50 and 100 freestyle

SWIMMING: The men's swimming team finished fourth and the women's team sixth in the 2016 Ohio Athletic Conference swimming championships this season.

Senior David Hawk repeated as OAC champion in the 50 and 100 freestyles, bringing his career total to five conference titles. Hawk swam away with an OAC record in the 50, and was one spot away from qualifying for the NCAA National Swimming Championships.

However, his best performance could have been winning the 100 freestyle two days later. Hawk, dealing with a stomach bug, barely qualified for the finals – placing ninth. He returned later in the session, after being sent to the hotel to recuperate, to dominate the event – winning by .20 of a second. He also earned All-OAC honors with a third place in the 200.

Junior Erik Spraul also added his name to the record books, establishing a new mark in the 400 individual medley. The quartet of Spraul, Hawk, Brendan Tirado and Jason Prible set the school record in the 800 freestyle.

Sophomore Samantha Glish emerged as a force in the sprint freestyle events all season long for the women's team. She was the highest placing female, finishing fourth in the 50 freestyle.

The quartet of senior Rachel Routzong, junior Kathryn Spitnogle, senior Colleen Rueppel and Glish was sixth in the 200 freestyle relay. Spitnogle, Glish, senior Rachel Drake and junior Elyse Spraul finished sixth in the 400 medley relay.



David Spraul competes in the backstroke against Manchester.



Lydia Wolcott takes on the butterfly stroke in the 200 individual medley versus Wittenberg.



Cheerleaders pictured at a men's basketball game are, from the left, Debbie Coomer, Brandi James, Brooke Weeks, Brittany Montgomery and Hayden Lowe.

Bolen competes at Nationals in shot put

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD: Senior Marissa Bolen continued her fantastic career placing 11th at the 2016 NCAA Division III Track & Field Championships.

"It was exciting to see Marissa Bolen get to the Indoor National Meet in the shot put for the first time in her career," said head coach Ron Combs '93, whose women's and men's teams placed ninth and eighth, respectively, in the Ohio Athletic Conference.

Bolen was the highest scoring female WC athlete in the OAC meet, placing sixth in the shot and seventh in the weight throw. Antone Truss, a senior, earned all league honors in the high jump, placing second. He added a seventh place finish in the triple jump.

YOUTH MOVEMENT BODES WELL FOR THE FUTURE

Jayson Ameer Rasheed '00

Bolen completes career with final trip to Nationals

OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD: The track and field teams brought home a pair of Ohio Athletic Conference outdoor titles as senior Marissa Bolen and sophomore Ashley Lovett won their respective events.

Bolen won the shot put with a mark of 13.92 meters, while Lovett was the league's 400-meter hurdles champion with a time of 1:05.50. Sophomore Pierce Burnam was runner-up in the 400-meter hurdles and also received All-OAC honors in the triple jump.

Bolen capped her career by competing in the 2016 NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field championships, where she placed 18th. She was also named All-Great Lakes Region in the shot put.

Sophomore Travis Schedler earned Academic All-OAC.



Marissa Bolen concluded her celebrated collegiate track and field career in May with her third appearance at the NCAA Championships.



Sophomore Pierce Burnam was among the top hurdlers in the OAC.

Hooper dazzles on the softball diamond

SOFTBALL: Sophomore Savannah Hooper had a breakout season for the softball team while the Quakers placed 11–25 overall, 3–15 in the OAC.

Hooper (Leesburg, OH/Wilmington) proved to be a threat on the field and in the classroom. The outfielder was named CoSIDA First Team Academic All-District and NFCA Second Team All-Central Region. She was also named Second Team All-OAC. She finished third in the OAC with a team-high — and third best all-time at WC — .472 batting average and she finished fourth in the OAC with 20 stolen bases.

Hooper, Jessie Stewart, Beccah Carpenter, Sawyer Hooper and Olivia Bauer all earned Academic All-OAC honors.



Sophomore Whitney Edwards makes contact in the game with Baldwin-Wallace.

SPRING SPORTS WRAP-UP

Baseball building for the future

BASEBALL: The baseball team continued to make improvements on the diamond as the Fightin' Quakers managed an OAC win for the first time since 2014. Wilmington finished 4-35 overall, 1-17 in the league. Three of WC's victories came during the team's spring break trip where it finished 3-5.

Senior Corey Walker was the only Wilmington player to earn All-OAC recognition. He hit a team-leading .298 with a team-high three triples. On the mound, Walker posted a team-low 5.29 earned run average with a team-high 11 starts. His 66 1/3 innings were the most of any Wilmington pitcher.

Daniel Hayes was the lone baseball representative on the Academic All-OAC team.



Freshman Gage Bley lays down a bunt in baseball action against Marietta.

Jackson ends LAX career with 216 points in 4 years

MEN'S LACROSSE: The program's first recruiting class completed their collegiate careers in 2016 as the Fightin' Quakers finished the campaign 6-8 overall, 2-5 in the OAC.

Seniors Alexander Gossard, Camden Doherty, Austin Johnston, Jalen Jackson, Zach Swenson, Alex Barton and Garyk Todd all were four-year letter winners and key components to building the program.

Jackson leaves Wilmington College as the program's most prolific scorer with 216 points, 88 points more than his closest teammate. He finished with 112 career goals and 104 career assists. Gossard wrapped up his career with 128 points, 104 goals and 24 assists.

Sophomore Jhordan Lang and Jackson were named All-OAC. Junior Reid Delaney led the team with 41 points, scoring a team-high 25 goals with 16 assists.

Delaney and junior Andrew Esselstein earned Academic All-OAC honors.



Junior Reid Delaney led the team in scoring this year.

Senior laden team provides leadership to women's lacrosse

WOMEN'S LACROSSE: The women's lacrosse team finished 2-14 overall and 0-7 in the Ohio Athletic Conference.

The top three Wilmington scorers – Stephanie Belz, Abby Jude and Rachel Routzong – were all seniors. Belz finished with 20 goals and three assists, while Jude added 16 goals and three assists and Routzong totaled 17 goals and one assist.

Junior Nikki Northern and senior Loryn Bryson scored 13 goals each.



Senior Rachel Routzong breaks away from Capital defenders.



Tim and Deb pose together in their backyard. The couple celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary this year.

'FOUNDATIONAL'

Tim '75 and Deb '73 Trayer cite WC's role in their success

Randy Sarvis

Timothy Trayer and Debra Brock arrived at Wilmington College with vastly different family backgrounds regarding higher education. She was the first in her family to attend college while his mother worked in the medical field and his father was a college professor.

Yet it was their shared experience in agriculture that helped bring them together.

Deb grew up on a farm near the Clinton County town of Martinsville. When she was nine, her father was killed by a tornado as he was bringing hogs into the barn. Her mother later remarried a swine farmer also from Martinsville.

"Wilmington College was my opportunity," said the teacher education major. "If I hadn't gone to WC, I'd have been flipping burgers in Wilmington. In high school, I was

told I was not college material, but, at Wilmington College, I thrived because I got the chance to take classes in my field of interest with professors who knew me by name.

"Since I was a child, I always wanted to be a teacher and

"Since I was a child, I always wanted to be a teacher and WC helped me to grow in many ways to become what I always dreamed to be." – DEBRA TRAYER

WC helped me to grow in many ways to become what I always dreamed to be.”

Meanwhile, Tim, a birthright Quaker, lived in Centerville, Ind., through age eight when his father taught agriculture at Earlham College and the family raised cows, hogs, chicken and sheep. In the early 1960s, they moved to Hershey, Pa., where his father became a Pennsylvania farm accountant. Tim worked on the family farm baling hay and planting trees.

At WC, both gained student employment at the College-affiliated farms, Tim at the swine barn and Deb at the equine barn. “Often we would help each other,” Deb laughed as she recalled: “Once, I fell pushing manure in the pig pen and Tim helped me up.”

Their paths seemed to cross often as Tim regularly took the “triangle path” from Austin-Pickett Hall, where he was a resident adviser, to Kettering, where the biology/chemistry major and agriculture minor had classes, to Pyle Center for dining and social activities.

They recalled a particularly memorable moment in which they were playing volleyball and Deb injured herself when she tripped over Tim’s foot. “Luckily, this resulted in him visiting me and caring for my swollen fractured foot,” Deb said, to which Tim jokingly replied, “She tricked me.”

That was the genesis of a friendship that has lasted through 43 years of marriage.

Tim reminisced about the campus “as a very comfortable place to be” in the early/mid-1970s. Deb recalled seeing Stevie Wonder perform in Boyd Auditorium while Tim remembered a performance of *Jesus Christ Superstar* in Hermann Court. Both believe the critical mass of international students enhanced the campus environment.

“The amount of different cultures and religions opened me up to seeing people from all over the world,” Deb said.

“My campus experience was a home away from home,” she added, lamenting the fact that she commuted for three years and only resided on campus in Austin-Pickett as a senior. “It would have been even more fulfilling to have lived four years on such a diverse campus. Other students had more independence than I had. We told our children that, when they attended college, they had to live on campus.”

Tim entered WC as a pre-med major but his work on the swine farm “convinced” him to pursue veterinary medicine. His focus on biology, chemistry and agriculture provided an interdisciplinary core program that met the requirements for veterinary college — “and my interests,” he said. “Wilmington was unique in allowing individuals to put together an education curriculum that reflected their interests.”

Central in that role was chemistry professor Philip Bayless, who, as Tim’s adviser, made him his chemistry lab assistant. “Phil Bayless, no question, was foundational to my success at Wilmington College,” he added.

For Deb, she cited a trio of faculty members, including theatre/English professor Hugh G. Heiland, who helped her overcome shyness. “Without Hugh, I couldn’t have had the confidence and courage to pursue a lot of things I’ve done.” Also, education faculty member George Winsor convinced Deb she possessed “a gift” for teaching, and art professor Philip Hodge set up a special curriculum that would allow her to become certified to teach elementary art.



Tim poses in front of dairy cattle at Dream Farms, which is one of his longtime clients.

“Phil Hodge helped me make my dreams come true,” she said.

As Deb entered her senior year, Tim, who is two years younger, proposed marriage, something for which her mother would give her blessing only if Deb had a job upon graduation in 1973, as Tim had a year-and-a-half remaining at WC. Blanchester Schools hired her to teach first grade and the couple was married under the care of Fall Creek Friends Meeting in Hillsboro.

She later taught first grade in the Columbus neighborhood of Grandview Heights while Tim attended veterinary school at The Ohio State University, from which he earned his doctor of veterinary medicine in 1979.

Tim worked with an all-species veterinary clinic in Palmyra, Pa., before he and a partner started a more specialized practice in Denver, Pa. “There was a tremendous need for an

“I’m grateful that WC gave me the skills to pursue many different teaching opportunities.” – DEBRA TRAYER

individual with knowledge of swine medicine,” he said about establishing Agricultural Veterinary Associates in 1981 with a focus on hogs and dairy cattle. When Tim set up his practice, Deb worked part-time from their home for the next 13 years as secretary, accountant, bookkeeper and PowerPoint creator for Tim’s research presentations — all while caring for and teaching their two children to value their education.

“I’m grateful that WC gave me the skills to pursue many different teaching opportunities,” Deb said. “From teaching pre-school swimming, being a First Day teacher at Lancaster Friends Meeting and volunteering for our children’s teachers to being a den mother and soccer coach, I enjoyed



Tim's not the only Trayer that works with cows, as Deb envisions this colorful bovine in her watercolor painting.

each new experience."

Some 35 years after its establishment, the thriving Agriculture Veterinary Associates has nine doctors serving four counties in what has become almost exclusively a dairy operation now based in nearby Lititz, Pa. The business ushered in a revolutionary change to veterinary medicine in east-central Pennsylvania.

During these years, Tim served on various veterinary boards and organizations. Additionally, he continued to do research on numerous related drugs and vaccines for swine and dairy health, often traveling to present at veterinary conferences along with publishing peer-reviewed papers.

"The dairy practice originally was the treatment of the individual animal that had a health issue (usually around calving time and involving a cow's four-chamber digestive system). When my partner and I started, that was pretty standard," he said. "We brought to this area actually doing that surgery on the farm, as well as regular herd health visits — that was foundational to our practice."

Indeed, not having to transport a sick animal to a veterinary clinic to repair a calf hernia or perform stomach surgery is a luxury for both the dairy farmer and the infirmed animals. As Ag Vets initiated periodic visits to promote herd health while determining the stage of a cow's pregnancy and its associated milk production, area dairy farms experienced many fewer health issues.

Tim explained the dynamics of herd health and how treatment of cows affects milk production in the pre-natal and post-natal periods. Indeed, giving mother cows what amounts to "maternity leave and a pedicure" will ultimately boost milk production.

"A well taken care of cow sleeps 13 hours and eats a nutritional diet six to eight times a day," he said. "It's been very rewarding observing how managing cows well results in

greater production. It's been a steady improvement so their genetic potential can be released."

Tim noted that, since the end of World War II, an astonishing half the number of cows produce four times the amount of milk. "The efficiency, environmental impact and welfare of cows have been drastically improved in the last 70 years."

Over the next few years, Tim expects to scale back his work with the business to primarily servicing select long-term clients and continuing to pursue the development of patents for agricultural application.

As the practice continued to grow and add support staff, in the mid-90s, Deb returned to her love for teaching, first instructing computer programs at their children's high school. When she retired in 2004 and they moved to the family farm near Hershey, she taught English as a second language to Cambodian immigrants in the area and started a local NAMI chapter to educate the community about mental illness.

Enjoying painting and other artistic endeavors throughout her life, Deb recently began teaching watercolor classes for low income, senior citizens who never painted before and could not afford classes — a dream of teaching art that "started at Wilmington College."

"Art has given me a new feeling of helping humanity," she said. "Prior to teaching my art classes, I assisted disabled adults to paint for a gallery. Doing paintings with them gave value and joy to their lives, as well as mine."

"A well taken care of cow sleeps 13 hours and eats a nutritional diet six to eight times a day." – TIMOTHY TRAYER

Their children seem to have followed in their parents' footsteps, as son Troy is a cardiologist specializing in nonsurgical interventions of putting in stents. His two girls, ages four and two, are, in Tim's words, "a ballerina and a rugby player." Daughter Amy was a teacher, for eight years, of the visually impaired and blind for grades K through 12, and currently works as an employment counselor for adults with mental and physical handicaps. She also is an active volunteer at her church and sponsors a young girl in Kenya.

The Trayers have been extraordinarily generous to their alma mater beginning with providing computer equipment for "smart rooms" in the Education Dept., which Deb realized from her own computer experience what a valuable asset this gift would be "for instruction and giving students a better chance of getting a job."

They later gave a six-figure gift toward the expansion and renovation of Boyd Cultural Arts Center in the mid-2000s and similar support for the recently completed Center for the Sciences and Agriculture, the later of which is especially close to Tim's heart as he looks back on all those hours spent in the chemistry lab in Kettering Hall.

A member of WC's Board of Trustees, he said such modern facilities will not only enhance teaching and learning but also will be attractive to parents and prospective students. "At least they will kick the tires."

Tim believes in the transformative nature of the Quaker institution and cited the agriculture program as a great vision that has become a pillar of the College.

"Wilmington has a unique background in agriculture,

which is foundational for the College long term,” he said about the program that’s been around nearly 70 years and currently boasts the largest number of students at WC — 25 percent. “Agriculture is part of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine) cycle of education that is so important right now.

“Also, we have strong feelings about the need for Wilmington College to continue offering first generation students a college experience,” he said, “and it’s enriching to see Quaker values as a very strong thread on campus.”

Tim and Deb added that a significant motivation for their giving is to “pay it forward” and pass on opportunities to others — “to help them do what they want to do in life,” she said.

“Wilmington College made a big change in my life,” she added.

Tim echoed those sentiments on how the Wilmington College experience was transformational.

“My philosophy of giving back to Wilmington comes from the broadness of the education I was able to get,” he said. “It added to my depth and vision to allow my professional career to be more than veterinary medicine.” The Trayers also have established an endowed scholarship at Ohio State’s Veterinary College for Wilmington College attendees.

The couple’s belief in the College’s sustainability parallels that of their homestead, whose origins even predate WC’s founding in 1870. They reside in a home Tim’s father purchased in the early 1960s in rural Palmyra, Pa. The original structure — still intact — was a log cabin built in 1863 that has since undergone several expansions and is now heated

and cooled by geothermal, 21st century technology. Their barn across the road is vintage 1880.

The farm is comprised of 11 immediate acres with another 172 acres, 73 of which is a sustainable forest with predominantly oak and walnuts trees. In 1996, the family planted a five-acre Paulownia plantation in a storm-damaged area. “We were planting for our retirement,” said Tim, noting he enjoys harvesting downed trees for lumber, as well as planting trees and creating food plots for wildlife.

Orchard grass grows on 15 acres of highly erodible soil that Tim and Deb make into small bales for dairy farmers while much of the remaining acreage is planted alternatively in soybeans, wheat and corn for the health of the land. It’s been no-till since the 1980s.

“Our philosophy on our properties is directed toward preservation,” Tim said, in drawing a connection between the land and their very significant support for Wilmington College. “You have to look at providing an opportunity that will allow the College to survive in the future. You have to be dynamic and change the breadth of opportunity.”

“Also, we have strong feelings about the need for Wilmington College to continue offering first generation students a college experience.” – TIMOTHY TRAYER



Tim shares a story about one of the numerous interns his practice has taken on over the years.



Aaron DeNu shares the stage with Peter Wittig, Germany's ambassador to the United States, in welcoming some 30,000 to Dupont Festival's community viewing of the USA-Germany 2014 World Cup match.

PIED PIPER OF THE POTOMAC

Aaron DeNu '01 directs Washington D.C.'s Dupont Festival

"From the beginning, I was drawn to the setting of it, a beautiful tree-lined park in Washington D.C."

— AARON DENU

Randy Sarvis

As Aaron DeNu walked through Washington D.C.'s historic Dupont Circle Park shortly after moving to the Nation's Capital in 2007, he paid little attention to the couples strolling under the canopy of trees that permeate the two-acres, nor the woman eating her lunch on a bench near the fountain, the man walking his border collie or even the teens performing impressive tricks on skateboards.

Rather, he envisioned thousands of Washingtonians' eyes fixed upon giant video screens, cheering as they watched the USA play in the greatest sports spectacle

on Earth, the World Cup soccer championships.

Since 1882, the park has always been a gathering place for Washingtonians and he saw himself as one who could raise the stakes and enhance the area's identity as a cross-cultural meeting place with shared activities as diverse as the city itself. In the words of one of the film buff's favorite movies, "If you build it, they will come."

"From the beginning, I was drawn to the setting of it, a beautiful tree-lined park in Washington D.C. I explored all the parks and learned Dupont is at the heart of

where Washingtonians hang out,” said DeNu, a 2001 Wilmington College graduate who earned his master’s degree from Fordham University and left New York City to take a position in D.C. at George Washington University. He arrived determined to take in all the Nation’s Capital had to offer.

“Those first years, I felt like I went to every public event in the city,” he said, noting he became intrigued with Dupont Circle Park, which was only seven blocks from his apartment. His research revealed the park sits at a crossroads of three major thoroughfares and its denizens are representative of D.C.’s tossed salad of nationalities, ethnicities, backgrounds and personal identities.

Also, 100 years ago, big bands played at the park and, since the 1960s, the area has been a popular location for demonstrations and vigils. However, in recent decades, “There was zero programming,” he said. DeNu, a soccer player at WC and aficionado of the game, came up with the idea of a community viewing similar to what is popular in fútbol-crazed nations like Germany.

“With the 2010 men’s World Cup in South Africa approaching, and the USA and England playing an opening match, I started down the alley of how I could put on a World Cup viewing festival,” he recalled, adding that he quickly learned it would involve much more than simply bringing in a big-screen TV.

DeNu’s work with the South African Embassy represented his initial foray into interacting with foreign governments.

Dupont Circle is technically a National Park so a federal permit was required; also one was needed to cover the adjacent proximity under the jurisdiction of Metropolitan Police and the Dept. of Transportation. Washington D.C. Council and Commissioners needed to give their blessings and broadcast rights were essential from both ESPN and FIFA, international soccer’s governing body.

Throw in the video screens, a sound system, generators, private security, restrooms, cleanup crews and a host of other logistical necessities, and the estimated cost soon totaled \$30,000 — and Dupont Circle Park had no programming budget.

Undeterred, DeNu began fundraising and assembling a team of volunteers. The former U.S. secretary-of-state, Henry Kissinger, offered a gift and approval to use his name. The Brazilian Sugar Cane Growers Assn. gave \$10,000 and, with publicity from the *Washington Post*, enough donations came in to make the first-ever, large-scale, permit event at the park a reality.

On a warm Saturday in June 2010, some 20,000 Washingtonians joined together in peaceful community to enjoy three opening matches of the World Cup, highlighted by the



As a forecast of storms threatens this summer’s Fete de la Musique de l’Alliance Francaise de Washington D.C., Aaron DeNu meets with members of the private security force and the programming person from the French Embassy.

USA playing England to a 1–1 draw.

DeNu’s work with the South African Embassy represented his initial foray into interacting with foreign governments. He has since worked directly with embassies of Germany, Ireland, France, Sweden and Finland.

“The international connection is one of the cool things about working for Dupont,” he said. “Almost all our projects involve the international community.”

The smashing success of the World Cup viewing got the ball rolling and established DeNu’s credibility as a mover and shaker in D.C. With the blessing of the neighborhood and National Park Service, he formed a five-person, Dupont Festival governing board that led to it becoming a sub-entity of Main Street Dupont Circle, giving him an office at the park and gaining non-profit status, which has stretched the impact of the more than \$175,000 raised since 2010.

Programing under the auspices of Dupont Festival became as diverse as the city. “Instead of stopping after the World Cup, the idea was to tie events to four seasons,” he said.

Events have run the gamut from an “unflinching prognosticating” marmot to the highbrow Bard of Avon. Indeed, Dupont Festival has featured Shakespeare-in-the-Park,

A lover of movies, DeNu devised the idea of showing classic films on temperate evenings when persons could bring a blanket or beach chair and watch ...



Aaron DeNu is featured with a bird's eye view of Dupont Circle Park in the background.

Knitting-in-the-Park, the Washington Ballet's version of a flash mob, widespread chess playing, a Pope-in-the-Park viewing of Pope Francis' American visit and the ever-popular Cinema-in-the-Park.

A lover of movies, DeNu devised the idea of showing classic films on temperate evenings when persons could bring a blanket or beach chair and watch *E.T.*, *Casablanca*, *The Maltese Falcon* or *Raiders of the Lost Ark* — all movies that are part of the National Film Registry.

"The European Union approached me for Dupont Festival to be their partner for programming in public space in Washington D.C." — AARON DENU

He promoted *Back to the Future* by positioning a DeLorean at the park against a backdrop playing of the film's theme song, "The Power of Love" by Huey Lewis & the News.

Regarding the marmot, DeNu wanted a winter event and always enjoyed the folklore that surrounds Groundhog Day, so, as a complement to Pennsylvania's Punxsutawney Phil, he devised a Feb. 2 morning program employing a stuffed groundhog, Potomac Phil, complete with polka dancers, a puppet show, groundhog readings and even a rabbi's blessing.

"Of course our groundhog also makes political predictions," he said, noting it is Washington D.C. after all. "The

community gets a real kick out of it." Also, several years ago, *The Huffington Post* closely followed DeNu's un-RSVP'd invitation for actor Bill Murray, star of the 1993 fantasy drama, *Groundhog Day*, to be part of the festivities.

The World Cup viewings have remained popular. In fact, Dupont Festival partnered with the German Embassy to show the USA-Germany match in 2014. It resulted in the festival's most popular event to date, as 30,000 attended the Germans' 1-0 victory. He followed that with the women's World Cup in 2015 featuring the USA vs. Sweden in a scoreless tie.

Other events have included the U.S. Air Force Jazz Band, an Irish Music Festival and, on this year's summer solstice, Fete de la Musique de l'Alliance Francaise de Washington D.C., a cultural appreciation event pro-

grammed by the French Embassy.

"The European Union approached me for Dupont Festival to be their partner for programming in public space in Washington D.C.," DeNu said. "This is an effective type of cultural diplomacy and nation branding by portraying a positive relationship with the American public."

DeNu's voluntary efforts on behalf of Dupont Festival have garnered him significant accolades, as the D.C. Commissioners recognized him for "his outstanding work in building a better community" and the White House presented him with the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Those efforts also resulted in a job. After serving at George Washington University for seven years as associate director of technology outreach and events, he was named in 2014 as executive director of the Mid-City Business District, a Chamber of Commerce-like position in which he promoted the popular U Street corridor of businesses.

"They recruited me because of the success I have had at Dupont," he said.

DeNu resigned from that position in July after Cincinnati-based Tier One hired him to be their representative in Washington. He is no stranger to Tier One, a consulting firm that works in business development through advising change management toward more technology-driven models. It marks the third time the firm has employed DeNu. After graduating from WC in 2001, he became the College's Webmaster before, in 2003, joining the fledgling Tier One as its fourth employee (he's now its 161st). He left after two years to pursue his master's degree in interdisciplinary studies at Fordham. His thesis was titled "Interface Technologies and Anthropology."

Upon receiving his advanced degree, which included taking a course at Harvard University, Tier One hired him to be

their face in New York City. He traveled the country presenting seminars, one of which was held in Washington D.C., a city he thoroughly enjoyed visiting. He subsequently pursued a newly created position at George Washington and moved there in 2007.

His first week in the city, DeNu met his future wife in their apartment elevator. Lauren is employed by global broadcasting giant Discovery Communications and is working on her MBA. They were married in 2012 in the historic Dumbarton House in Georgetown, the location to which First Lady Dolly Madison fled the White House as the British marched into the nation's new capital during the War of 1812.

One of Washington's greatest attractions to DeNu is its history — be it as formally presented as at the Smithsonian museums or as informally as the buried artifacts discovered, in the DeNus' backyard, that date back to the British plundering of D.C. in 1814. It is something for which he gained an enhanced appreciation when he studied under WC professors Edward Agran and Vinny Prince while double majoring in history and computer science.

As DeNu has attained success in his careers and acclaim

through his work with the Dupont Festival, his Wilmington College roots remain close.

"I think Wilmington College is all about one-on-one, face-to-face encounters," he said. "I've never seen such personal relationships anywhere else — and that's never left me. I can't imagine having gone anywhere else as an undergrad.

"My Wilmington College experience is such a huge part of who I am."

"I think Wilmington College is all about one-on-one, face-to-face encounters. I've never seen such personal relationships anywhere else — and that's never left me." — AARON DENU



Bill McLeod of Main Street Dupont Circle chats with Aaron DeNu in front of the office they share across from Dupont Circle.

THE ULTIMATE SURVIVOR

'Big Mike' downsizes for the health of it



Michael Allbright traverses campus on his daily walk of nearly eight miles, which is part of a diet and fitness regimen that has seen him drop from 525 pounds to 268 in 15 months. Notice the dangling belt. It represents the 14 inches he's lost from his waist.

Randy Sarvis

Michael Allbright is hands-down the world's biggest fan of the long-running, CBS television series *Survivor*. He's attended numerous show-related events, hosts a national radio program devoted to all things *Survivor* and has met 447 — 94 percent — of the cast members that have attempted, since its debut in 2000, to "outwit, outlast and outplay" each other for a \$1 million prize.

Last year, season 30 winner Mike Holloway gave Allbright a shirt in recognition of the aficionado's keen interest in *Survivor* and his work with its charity events. That shirt symbolizes a key milestone in Allbright's quest for enhanced health and wellbeing through his massive weight loss — he went from 525 to 299 pounds in 13 months!

"Mike gave me the double XL shirt when I was 6X — now I can wear it," said Allbright, a 2002 Wilmington College alumnus and assistant dean of students for housing and residence life at WC.

And wear it he did when he and Holloway both attended a *Survivor* charity event in early June, which was just days after Allbright dipped below 300 pounds for the first time

since 1998, the year he entered WC as a freshman. By early August, he weighed in at 268 pounds.

"Mike was shocked — everyone was shocked. Mike gave me a big hug and said how excited he was for me," Allbright said, noting that's been a common reaction from friends and family. Even though many have followed his journey on Facebook, he said they are amazed by his physical transformation when they see him in person. "People are shocked. Their reaction is dramatic. First, their mouth is open in amazement, then they say, 'You look totally different!'"

The gregarious Allbright has accomplished a seemingly miraculous, 180-degree, life-affirming change in a little over a year — a remarkable year.

With his life literally in the balance, Allbright underwent a surgical procedure last November that essentially cut off more than 80 percent of his stomach from his gastrointestinal tract, which is complemented by his commitment since May 2015 to healthy diet and exercise.

Allbright developed high blood pressure, sleep apnea and likely was on the road to becoming diabetic.

Allbright was heavysset as a boy, a mixture of family genetics and resorting to overeating in response to everything from celebrations to family turmoil and normal teen angst.

"Then I went off to college," he recalled. "People talk about the 'freshman 15' but, being an exceptional guy, I experienced the 'freshman 50' instead, and then almost the 'sophomore 60.' My weight became a huge concern."

He tried to exercise more, gave yoga and Zumba a shot, and even tried the controversial Atkin's diet, which "melted pounds away," but he realized it was unsustainable for the long term and ended up regaining the weight he lost — plus.

"My health was terrible," he added.

Allbright developed high blood pressure, sleep apnea and likely was on the road to becoming diabetic. Walking minimal distances and climbing few steps quickly left him short of breath. Flying induced the stress of making others uncomfortable and even came with the possibility of being thrown off the plane if he hadn't purchased two seats. By the time he approached his mid-30s, his friends and family became "extremely worried."

"My doctor basically said I needed to do weight loss surgery — or I would die," he recalled.

Allbright started on his road to better health by cutting his caffeine habit of drinking a two-liter bottle of Diet



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Mountain Dew each day. Even though the soft drink does not contain sugar, he is convinced the artificial sweetener induces an urge to snack.

"My first step was to cut out pop — cold turkey," he said, noting he knew that relatively small gesture needed to be followed by bigger ones. Maxing out at 525 pounds, Allbright attended a weight loss seminar in April 2015, where he learned about various surgical procedures that would diminish his ravenous appetite, which often resulted in consuming 4,000 calories a day — much of it junk food — combined with little physical activity.

May 1, 2015, was the day Allbright embarked upon an exercise regimen designed to prepare himself for the surgery and literally his new life. "That first day I could barely walk 500 steps," he recalled. "I was gasping for air and could hardly breathe. Now my daily walk is often the most enjoyable part of the day."

He hit a roadblock when his health insurance provider deemed these gastric bypass procedures as cosmetic surgery not covered under his plan, but *Survivor* friend Laura Holzwasser urged him to attempt raising some of the more than \$15,000 needed through Go Fund Me, a popular fundraising vehicle on social media, which dovetailed well with his Facebook group of 3,000-plus friends.

"Laura told me, 'You have a lot of people that love and care about you,'" he said. "Within three or four days, it was up to \$8,000. I broke down crying in my office — I didn't expect that kind of support."

Eventually, contributions totaled \$11,632 from 140 donors, including a \$5,000 donor who wishes to remain publicly anonymous.

By the date of his surgery, Nov. 11, 2015, Allbright was down to 450 pounds. The gastric sleeve procedure involved cutting and suturing most of his stomach, resulting in an inability to consume anything but small quantities of food. His diet for the subsequent six weeks was so restrictive that what little he was allowed to eat often had to be blended.

"I missed Thanksgiving and my birthday dinners — there was no birthday cake either," he said.

His 1200 calories a day consists largely of chicken, turkey, nuts and cooked vegetables with very little red meat and dairy. He drinks up to 100 ounces of water each day.

"I physically cannot eat that much," he said. "It would take me four days to eat a pizza."

Consider these numbers since Allbright's November surgery. He weighed 380 pounds in late January and, on the eve of the one-year anniversary of his dieting/exercise regimen, April 29, he had shed 200 pounds, which he describes as his "watershed moment." On May 29, Allbright weighed less than 300 pounds for the first time this century.

"Getting below 300 pounds is a big deal to me. And I'm not done yet!" he said.

Allbright often walks as many as 16,000 steps a day (nearly eight miles), easily eclipsing his goal of 10,000 steps (five miles) a day. In April, he walked 16 miles at WC's Collegiate Relay for Life and, when the event moves to fall in October, he has his sights set on walking a marathon —



Michael Allbright is pictured in April 2015 near his maximum 525 pounds at a reunion with friends from his 2002 WC graduating class: from the left, Annie Morse Shelton, Dee Mayberry Haynes and Ramy Logan Arbuckle.

26.2 miles — during the 12-hour event.

The results of losing 50 percent of his body weight and lowering his body mass index from 67 to 31 are nothing short of amazing. Not only is Allbright a mere shadow of his former self, literally, his sleep apnea is gone and his doctor took him off blood pressure meds.

"My doctor, nurse and nutritionist said they've never seen anyone lose that much that fast," he said, noting that, after not seeing his mother for a month during the spring, she barely recognized him.

Those spotting him as he takes his daily walks — sometimes circling campus as many as 10 times — will notice the end of his belt dangling to his knees as he maintains a steady pace. It's a reminder of the progress he's made in losing 14 inches from his waist in a little over a year.

His goal is to approach the 230 pounds of his sophomore year in high school. "How insane would that be to have lost 300 pounds?" he exclaimed.

"I have all kinds of energy now. It was a lifestyle change, not a quick fix," he said, noting he's interested in presenting motivational talks to others struggling with some form of addiction or barrier in their lives. "I'm proof that if a person puts enough work and effort into what they want to accomplish, they can achieve it too."

The results of losing 50 percent of his body weight and lowering his body mass index from 67 to 31 are nothing short of amazing.

CLASS NOTES

ABOUT CLASS NOTES

The LINK is interested in learning more about your accomplishments and other newsworthy items. Please direct information and photographs to: Class Notes, Pyle Center Box 1313, Wilmington College, Wilmington, OH 45177, or via email to: alumni@wilmington.edu. When reporting the death of an alumna/us, please send a copy of the obituary, which should include the date of death. If possible, include the names and class years of any survivors who attended Wilmington College. Deadline for the next issue is Dec. 1, 2016.

Circa 1929

HOWARD W. "KROGER" BABB (1906–1980) was inducted posthumously as a 2016 member of the Clinton County Sport Hall of Fame. A sportswriter for the Wilmington News Journal, he was credited in Ripley's Believe It Or Not to have officiated more than 1,000 high school football and 1,000 basketball games in his career. Babb later embarked upon another career in which he was a successful film producer known for his often-sensationalized subject matter.

1951

The LINK received a nice note from ALICE JUNE MERTON about a current student featured in her *Harrison Press*. Alice, who retired in 1981 after teaching for 30 years, remains especially active with her church. "I enjoy getting *The LINK*," she wrote. "WC was a great college and I'm glad to see it still doing so well. I still see friends from 65 years ago!"

1965

ALAN FRANKEL has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Classic Lyric Arts, which is a non-profit organization committed to positively impacting the next generation of young opera singers.

1966

THOMAS E. BURG is a retired FBI agent turned author. Following his 2003 *White Pine Route: The History of the Washington, Idaho & Montana Railway Company*, he admits to catching the writing bug. Tom continues to be an author, editor and publisher. "I know I must be a real writer on the days when the snow is deep and the temperatures here in Wisconsin are below zero and the feel of the warm wood stove makes me feel like writing."

1973

DON MUCHMORE, president of Alumni Council, welcomed the graduates at WC's

Commencement as they joined the 16,000-plus alumni that went before them. "You are taking something special from Wilmington College with you into the next part of your life journey," he said. "It may be that one special professor that saw something special in you or a classmate that you learned you could always count on or that coach that helped you achieve at a level that you never dreamed you could perform. You may not be able to hold it in your hand (like a diploma), but rather you hold it dear inside."

1979

JAY NISWONGER was inducted into the Ohio High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame, which complements his membership in WC's, Greenville Schools' and the Miami Valley Football Coaches Assn. halls of fame. In 28 seasons as Valley View High School's head coach, his teams posted a 243–78–1 record and won three state championships.

1984

HOPE WILSON-BELLE was inducted into the Outstanding Women of Clinton County in March. She was recognized for persevering through challenges and ultimately becoming a successful entrepreneur and effective community leader.

1986

HEIDI (KIBLINGER) ABBOTT, wife of 27 years to BRYAN ABBOTT, is in her ninth year as owner and photographer of Thrive Creative Studio, a professional photography studio that specializes in high school senior photography. You can see her Website at www.thriveseniors.com. They reside in Kansas City.

1987

DAVID JOHNSON received national certification as a master addiction counselor.

1995

JULIE (RILEY) WALBURN is a 2016 inductee into the Trimble Local High School Wall of Fame. She followed her WC degree in social work and criminal justice with a master's in



More than 30 Delta Omega Theta alumni "came home" to campus April 29 & 30 to celebrate the 2016 Annual. Several of them are pictured, from the left: Ann Wallace Carr '79, Francie Thompson-Coner '79, Sue Thomas Bennett '63 and Connie Penn Von Hacht '79.



CLASS NOTES

public policy and management from OSU. Julie serves as chief of staff for the Ohio Dept. of Health.

1998

SHEENA (SMITH) NIPPER was promoted to chief probation officer at Greene County Juvenile Court. She has been with the court since graduating from WC.

1999



DANI GUSTAVICH told the graduating seniors that people are more important than things when she was guest speaker at WC's Senior Luncheon. "Focus on people and you'll make a difference in people's lives." She is children's librarian with Dover Public Library.

2000



MELISSA (FARBER) BILLING, DVM, completed a two-year continuing education program at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine designed to enhance the business, communication and planning skills of animal health professionals. She is professional service veterinarian with the Swine Division of Boehringer-Ingelheim Vetmedica, St. Joseph, MO. Melissa earned her DVM degree from Ohio State University in 2005.

2003

JIMMY WALLACE is now a three-time Hall of Famer. The 2013 Athletic Hall of Fame inductee recently joined an elite group of wrestlers, coaches and administrators when he was inducted in the National Wrestling Coaches Association NCAA Division III Hall of Fame. He was also inducted into the Valley View High School Hall of Fame. In 2002, he



John Kinsinger '53 again graciously hosted the annual Otterbein Alumni & Friends Luncheon held at the Kings Center at Otterbein Retirement Village on April 29. Picture from the left are: SEATED — Mary Custis '45, Mary Jane Fox '41, Nelson Melampy '42, Charles Bonecutter '53, Len Perkins '54 and Norma Jean Pavlovic '54; STANDING — Muriel Specht Hiatt, Patricia Matthews, Dale Matthews '56, Dorothy Melampy, Richard Perry '56, Jean Ann Perry '59, Carolyn Bonecutter '53, Charlotte Bercaw, Bill Bercaw '52, Marilyn Hanlin '56, Harold Hanlin '54 and John Kinsinger '53.

went a perfect 30-0 to claim the 2002 NCAA Division III title in the 157-point weight class and was also named the Most Outstanding Wrestler at the D-III Championships. Jimmy is the father of four, Bailey, Brady, Mercedes and Bo, and lives in Germantown, OH. He works with special needs children at the Montgomery County Educational Learning Services.

2007

MATTHEW PERRY was promoted to associate director for residence life at the University of Toledo. In addition, he was named to the President's Council on Diversity. He began working for UT fresh out of graduate school and is beginning his seventh year there.

2009

MATT SOUTHWORTH joined the Board of Trustees of the Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society in West Hartford, CT. Matt is WC's director of leadership giving for the northeast region. He previously was a major gifts officer for Friends Committee on National Legislation and director of resource development for the Red Cross in Connecticut.

2014

BEKAH MUCHMORE, executive director of Main Street Wilmington, took on the

additional responsibilities in June of serving as marketing/communications director for the Wilmington/Clinton County Chamber of Commerce.

2016

May graduate DYLAN HAMMOND is a 2016 recipient of the Charles J. Ping Student Community Service Award for outstanding leadership and contributions to service both in the community and on the WC campus. Ohio Campus Compact recognized Hammond for his "tireless dedication to community service."

MARRIAGES

2009

THOMAS KEANE married Mackenzie Dobbs on May 14, 2016, at the St. Rose Church in Cincinnati, OH.

AARON SLUSHER and Katherine McFarland were joined in holy matrimony June 11, 2016, at the Rocky River Reservation in North Olmstead, OH.

Continued on Page 56

CLASS NOTES

Continued from Page 55



MATT SOUTHWORTH got hitched to Katherine Zager on March 19, 2016, in Hartford, CT.

2010

MARK SEDZIOL and Katie Peace were married on May 17, 2016.

2011



MICHELLE KERSCHNER and GRANT GOSSARD '12 were united in matrimony on April 9, 2016 in Sheridan Indiana.



Several WC alumni were in the wedding party. Pictured from the left are: CLAY BONDURANT '13, Garrett Gossard, Colin Beck, Josh Isenhower, GRANT GOSSARD '12, MICHELLE KERSCHNER '11, JENNIFER KERSCHNER '08, Abby Fabich, HALEY DAMRON '10 and KATY DASCH '11.



JOSHUA RICHARDSON and ALAINA HOVEY '14 exchanged vows June 21, 2016, while overlooking The Gorge in West Virginia. They spent their honeymoon whitewater rafting and zip-lining.

2012



MELISSA HILL and Victor Manfredi were married on June 11, 2016.

2013

JAMES ATTINGER and JORDAN VANWINKLE '14 were joined as husband and wife on June 4, 2016, in Clyde, OH.

CAITLYN MASSIE married Jake Welty May 28, 2016, in St. Paris, OH.

2014



SHANNON BYWATERS exchanged vows with Ryan Scott on June 25, 2016.

DEATH NOTICES

1945

REV. JOHN ROBERT BOGGS JR.
Winona Lake, IN June 19, 2013

1946

AUDREY MAE GOODIN HAINES
Wilmington, OH June 22, 2016

1947

NANCY TERRELL BREWSTER
Richmond, IN April 7, 2016

1948

MARGARET PATTERSON "PAT" DAILEY
Wilmington, OH June 25, 2016

1949

HOMER GORMAN
Jamestown, OH June 10, 2016

1950

BETTY STEWART GARRETT
Fresno, CA May 18, 2016

1951

HERBERT LEE NICHOLS
Kennett Square, PA May 26, 2016

1953

JAMES RAYMOND MOTSINGER JR.
Springboro, OH Feb. 29, 2016

1956

BESS (McCANN) STAMM
Wilmington, OH July 12, 2016



Pictured at Der Dutchman restaurant in Sarasota Feb. 24, are, from the left, Walter Hobbie '51, Doug Wert '58, Hester Hobbie '52, Don Wert '54, Martha "Marty" Snapp '68, Tom Snapp '68, Ed Wildman '62 and Sharon Wildman.



CLASS NOTES

1958

REV. ARTHUR KUEHN
Fayetteville, Ohio

Jan. 22, 2016

1967

DIANE (PETTY) BYERS
Cincinnati, OH

April 4, 2016

2016

JONATHAN "JAKE" ELLIS
Wilmington, OH

Feb. 26, 2016

1960

WILLIAM "BILL" KIER
Waynesville, OH

April 7, 2016

1973

STEVEN CARTER
Northville, MI

June 7, 2016

Non-Grad Alum

GREGORY COX
Clearwater, FL

March 19, 2016

HAROLD DONALD COPLEY
Pasadena, MD

June 2014

1974

THOM ADLER
Westerville, OH

May 6, 2015

FORMER FACULTY

MARGARET PATTERSON "PAT" DAILEY
Emeritus associate professor of health and physical education, 1954 through 1988, June 25, 2016, Wilmington, OH

1961

FREDERIC "RICK" FORSTE
Hamilton, OH

Feb. 10, 2016

SHIRLEY M. (BARKER) WALKER
Lynchburg, OH

July 7, 2016

1961

SARAH "KATHY" (BONECUTTER) CRANMER
Waynesville, Ohio

Feb. 24, 2016

1984

KYLE CHRISTENSEN
Dayton, OH

Feb. 8, 2016

DR. MAXINE URTON

Assistant athletic trainer and assistant professor of health and physical education, late 1970s through early 1980s, March 28, 2016, Wilmington, OH

1962

KIRBY HOLCOMB
Edgewater, FL

April 2, 2016

1983

Dr. MAXINE (SHEAFER) URTON
Wilmington, OH

March 28, 2016

1965

CHARLES "BUTCH" JENSEN
Sacramento, CA

May 14, 2016

1988

RODNEY C. BERNHARD
Shiloh, OH

July 9, 2016

DONALD E. AMMON

Assistant professor of economics in the 1950s, May 7, 2016, Cridersville, OH

BARBARA (RICHIE) SNYDER
Hilliard, OH

March 18, 2016

2001

WILLIAM "BILL" LISTERMANN
Cincinnati, OH

Dec. 14, 2015

KAPPAS GATHER FOR 95TH ANNIVERSARY



Members of Alpha Phi Kappa sorority came en masse to its annual gathering, which celebrated the 95th anniversary of the group's founding in 1921.



More than 175 members of Sigma Zeta returned for the fraternity's 100th anniversary of its founding. Pictured are Sigs at the banquet held at the Roberts Centre May 21.

SIGMA ZETA CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

More than 175 Sigs return for centennial weekend



Dan Smith '69 and Harry Daniels '67 share a laugh in recalling Sigma Zeta memories from the 1960s.

The reunion attracted alumni from as far away as California and Florida, Sweden and Norway.

Sigma Zeta was founded March 16, 1916, after Wilmington College's fifth president, J. Edwin Jay, approved allowing another "secret society" onto the campus.

In one of the largest alumni reunions in WC history, more than 175 Sigs returned to Wilmington the weekend of May 21 when the fraternity celebrated its centennial with a series of activities that included golf, gatherings at the Sig House, tables at Damon's Grille, Max & Erma's and BW3, and a grand banquet at the Roberts Centre.

The reunion attracted alumni from as far away as California and Florida, Sweden and Norway.

Trey Pauley '05, one of the Alumni Assn. leaders, welcomed the Sig alums by taking them back to 1916



Sigma Zeta actives, from the left, Grady Garrison, Jake Robinson and Wesley King, enjoy hearing stories from alumni Bob Demar and Bob Bruns '61 at the 100th anniversary Founders Banquet.



A Wilmingtonian yearbook from the late 1950s evokes memories of those golden days for Bob Bruns '61, Dan Finfrock '58, Paul Frank '59 and Jim Landon '58.

when a group of “renegade” students didn’t want to join the College’s lone fraternity and petitioned the president to recognize Sigma Zeta.

“Think about it, these guys were the same age as us when we were actives,” he said. “Think about the maturity and foresight required for setting up a fraternity that is still going strong 100 years later!”

Jim Wilson '88 said Sigma Zeta is all about “family” to him. “I had the opportunity to pledge three different frats, and, when I chose Sigma Zeta, I got another family.” Indeed, he married a Kappa and two of his brothers-in-law are Sigs.

Andy Szucs '01 implored members to “always keep your friends and brothers close” while George Justice '73 recalled that, seeing the fraternity’s “purpose” — with its elements of “fellowship, scholarship and highest class of men” — one day in Pyle Center led him to seriously consider seeking a bid. He

never regretted that decision.

Charlie Seipelt '57 spoke of an incident in which the military police at the Wilmington Air Base detained him and his pledge brothers for undisclosed antics before turning them over to then-President Sam Marble — a cherished memory that all share now more than 60 years later.

Tevis Foreman '03 spoke of the special bonds Sigs have with one another. “I look across the tables and see a sense of brotherhood and friendship that spans the years.”

“I had the opportunity to pledge three different frats, and, when I chose Sigma Zeta, I got another family.” – JIM WILSON



Brian Wetzel '04, Jeremy Cubranich '02 and David Smith '03 talk about the good times in the early 2000s.



Karli Harris '13 poses in the midst of her merchandise at Everyday Chic Boutique in downtown Wilmington.

2013 ALUM OPENS TRENDY WILMINGTON BOUTIQUE

Randy Sarvis

Karli Harris recalls traveling to Cincinnati with Ellen Novar's Consumer Behavior marketing class at Wilmington College. There they visited a half dozen stores looking with a critical eye where the merchandise was positioned.

"That was a very hands-on learning experience. I often look back on that day," said Harris, a 2013 graduate in marketing and graphic design who's already well on the road to becoming a successful entrepreneur.

She also recalls another WC experience involving traveling when she participated in several spring break study trips in Europe. While kidded by some for her fascination with shopping in London, Paris and Rome, there was a method to

her madness that continues to serve her well.

"There's tons of boutiques in Europe," she said. "I got a feel for them and brought that idea here."

Harris is a young entrepreneur, following in her father's footsteps as a business owner, with the establishment of a trendy fashion store for young women, Everyday Chic Boutique. What she started as a Web-based business after her graduation from WC has quickly grown into the newest shop in downtown Wilmington.

She started it while working full time as the small business loan coordinator at Wright-Patterson Credit Union. There, she worked with hopeful entrepreneurs and realized she too

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

had a business idea with prospects for success.

"I asked myself, 'What's your favorite thing to do? 'Shop.' So I turned it into a business," she said. "My motto is, 'If I'd buy it, I think others would too.'"

That bold proclamation is paying dividends as she expanded her Internet business to bringing apparel and accessory items to festivals and making them available through her "pop-up shops" at other businesses.

"It sold like crazy!" she added.

Harris built upon that early success when she moved into a space on West Locust St. near the former Cassano's Pizza in downtown Wilmington in late 2014. Initially open only weekends, it grew in popularity so quickly that she quit her job with Wright-Patt and went full time the following April.

A year later, May 1, 2016, she moved Everyday Chic Boutique into the newly remodeled, historic Samuel Walker's Building, which features a prime, Main St. location with on-site parking across from the General Denver Hotel and Grille, and next to the Murphy Theatre. Her grand opening event in early June marked the launch of a home décor line to go with the apparel, accessories, jewelry and unique gifts.

Being located in the heart of downtown represents both a pragmatic and ideological move.

"Being born and raised in Wilmington, I'm passionate about this area — I believe our downtown can thrive," she said. "It's exciting that people are coming from as far away as Dayton, Cincinnati, Dublin and Northern Kentucky University to shop here. I want to bring people to this area. I'd like to see downtown Wilmington as a destination city like Lebanon and Waynesville."

Harris said her main customer demographic is an 18 to

35-year-old female who does much of her shopping online because, typically, that's where she's found especially distinct apparel.

"They're fashion forward — they're looking for unique trends that haven't hit the malls yet," she said. "They are people wanting to try something new."

Harris has enjoyed great success reaching that audience via social media, which might initially attract customers to her Website, and, in turn, drive them toward her store. Obviously, her background in graphic design and marketing played a role in the creation of an appealing Website and compelling social media and promotional messaging.

As Harris basks in her thus-far, successful venture as an entrepreneur, she's already looking to give back, as both Novar and Angela Mitchell, two of her WC faculty mentors, have asked that she share her story in their classes. With that in mind, Harris looks back to several years ago when she attended WC's "speed networking" sessions in which students have an opportunity to speak — for a few quick minutes — with an ever-rotating number of local professionals.

"I remember meeting Molly Dullea, owner of the General Denver. I was so inspired with how she built such a successful business," Harris said. "I look forward to being on the other side of the table when I can be a resource to students."

"Networking was so important to making connections that have helped me with my business. I still use my professors as resources, Ellen, Angela, Steven Stovall," she added. "There's so much you can learn from them."

FRIENDS AND ALUMNI ENJOY BOURBON TRAIL ADVENTURE



Nearly 30 alumni, family, and friends headed out for WC's inaugural Bourbon Trail Experience trip June 25 & 26th. The group had stops at Evan Williams, Jim Beam and Copper & Kings distilleries, and a night's stay in the heart of Louisville's 4th Street Live Entertainment District. Pictured at the Jim Beam facility are, from the left: **FIRST ROW** — Brad Goodwin '98, Erika Smith Goodwin '95, Don Chafin, Ann Case, Sharon Geier '65, Jean Gravlin '70, Elaine Frock, Pam McCoy, Kara Young '15, Erin Reynolds '15, Rhonda Reynolds, Mike Reynolds, Katherine Ellis '75, Carol McCoy, Linda Olinger '69, Steve Olinger '69; **SECOND ROW**: Sam Hughes '94, Chris Case '93, Sue Reynolds, Jim Reynolds, Brian Frock '65, Dennis Kelly, Sharon Buren, Tim Buren '83, Don Ellis '72, Christina Knief '15 and Brian Mabry '15.



Attired in Wilmington College green and white, Margaret "Pat" Dailey happily poses with Lady Quaker Basketball alumni at the alumni game in 2012. Dailey regularly attended women's basketball, a game that women were unable to play as a varsity sport when she was a student in the mid-1940s.

PAT DAILEY MAINTAINED CLOSE TIES TO WC



Margaret "Pat" (Patterson) Dailey '48, 89, associate professor emeritus of health, physical education, recreation and athletics, died June 25, 2016.

She served on the College's HPERA faculty from 1954 through 1988, and was a member of Alpha Phi Kappa sorority during her years as a student at WC.

Dailey was a regular attendee at the Quakers' women's basketball games and she joyfully participated in basketball reunions.

Becky Haines '72, theatre technical support and fine arts secretary, remembered her as "a sweet, sweet lady. I always enjoyed talking to her at basketball games. She was quite the WC supporter."

Indeed she was and when Jerry Scheve, associate professor of accounting and women's basketball coach, learned of her passing, he sent his players a photograph of Dailey pictured at a recent Lady Quaker basketball alumni game, along with this message.

"Today I attended the funeral of Pat Dailey," Scheve said, noting that, while driving to the service, he also learned that

legendary Tennessee basketball coach Pat Summitt had died.

"These were two Pats that really made a difference in the world," he said. "When I think of Pat Summitt, I think of Title IX and what it has done for women in this country. Summitt was at the forefront of that movement, and as a basketball coach she was admired by and inspired millions of young girls who were now being given the opportunity to achieve their dreams."

Scheve noted that Summitt's impact on those girls went well beyond the basketball court, as they grew into successful young women.

"When I think of Pat Dailey, I think of someone whose career occurred largely before Title IX came into effect, and who unfortunately did not have the same coaching opportunities that Pat Summitt had," he said. "But, like Pat Summitt, she was a wonderful teacher, who was also admired by and inspired hundreds, if not thousands, of young girls and boys during her career."

Scheve described Dailey as a "great fan" of the Lady Quaker basketball team.

"I had the opportunity to meet Pat Summitt on a couple of occasions, as well as the opportunity to know and learn from Pat Dailey," he added. "They were both very special people."



EVENTS CALENDAR

Through Oct. 14... Quaker Heritage exhibit, "Boycott! The Art of Economic Activism," weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also, Saturdays, Sept. 24 and Oct. 8, noon to 5 p.m.

Through Oct. 7... Harcum Art Gallery exhibit featuring works by Barbara Ahlbrand, weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; opening reception, Sept. 1, 6 to 8 p.m.

Wed., Sept. 21... International Day of Peace dedication ceremony for a plaque on a rock that recognizes 14 Quaker men who volunteered during and after World War I to relieve the suffering of war, 4 p.m., near the Harvey Statue. Reception to follow in the Quaker Heritage Center

Fri. and Sat., Oct. 7 and 8... Homecoming/Alumni Reunion Weekend, see schedule at www.wilmington.edu/alumni

Sat., Oct. 8... Dedication of the Center for the Sciences & Agriculture, 1 p.m., building patio area

Tues., Oct. 11... Westheimer Peace Symposium, all day programming

Oct. 11 through Oct. 21... Harcum Art Gallery exhibit, "Peace Symposium Show," weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Oct. 26 through Dec. 9... Harcum Art Gallery exhibit featuring works by Stephen Potthoff, weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; opening reception, Oct. 26, 6 to 8 p.m.

Nov. 11 through April 28... Quaker Heritage Center exhibit, "A Game of Knick-Knacks and Knowledge," weekdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tues., Nov. 15... International Club's International Festival, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., location TBA



Thurs., Fri., Sat. and Sun., Nov. 17, 18, 19 and 20... WC Theatre and Wilmington High School Theatre present Hair-spray, 7:30 p.m., Heiland Theatre

Thurs., Dec. 1... Collegium Musicum's mini-concert, noon, Harcum Art Gallery

Sun., Dec. 4... Winter Holiday Choral Concert, 7:30 p.m., Heiland Theatre

Alumni Events

Sun., Sept. 25... WC at the Columbus Crew game, tailgate at 5 p.m., kickoff at 7 p.m., Mapfre Stadium, Columbus, tickets \$21

Fri. and Sat., Oct. 7 and 8... Homecoming/Alumni Reunion Weekend, see schedule at www.wilmington.edu/alumni

Fri., Oct. 28... Is Wilmington College Haunted: A Paranormal Investigation, details TBA

Fri., Dec. 2... Cookies with Santa, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., McCoy Room, Kelly Center

CSA GRAND OPENING TO COINCIDE WITH HOMECOMING



The Center for the Sciences and Agriculture will hold a grand opening Oct. 8, at 1 p.m., as alumni and friends descend upon campus for a combined Homecoming/Alumni Reunion Weekend celebration. The \$14 million renovation and expansion of the former Kettering Hall was a long time in coming. The groundbreaking was held on a frigid day in January 2014 with construction commencing the following summer. This past January, the 13,500 square-foot addition opened to rave reviews as students began spring semester. The facility's renovation/expansion came to fruition after the renovation of the 34,000 square-foot original building concluded this summer. The CSA is poised to elevate teaching and learning to new levels.

The new addition and renovated structure houses 10 laboratories, three research labs, 10 classrooms, two conference rooms and 30 offices. It was designed to achieve a LEED certification as an environmentally friendly "green" building in its design, construction, operation and maintenance.

The original Kettering Hall part of the facility was reconfigured and upgraded for optimal use of space with a special consideration placed upon the building infrastructure. It was, in effect, married to the new wing to produce a modern, technology-intensive teaching and learning facility.



**Wilmington
College**

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HOMECOMING/ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

OCTOBER 7-8, 2016

Homecoming and Alumni Reunion Weekend will be combined
in anticipation of the largest convergence of alumni ever!

See schedule at www.wilmington.edu/homecoming

- Class reunions
- Alumni Awards
- Center for the Sciences
& Agriculture Grand Opening
- Quaker Emeriti Medallion Ceremony
- Affinity group reunions
- Back to the Classroom sessions
- Homecoming pageantry
- Football and soccer games
- Country music concert
- Aggieville
- Greek reunions
- Athletic Hall of Fame induction
(Michelle Buck Cron '04, Damien Garnett '00,
Brandon Tisdale '05, Bruce Wasam
and Siobhan Zerilla '05)

